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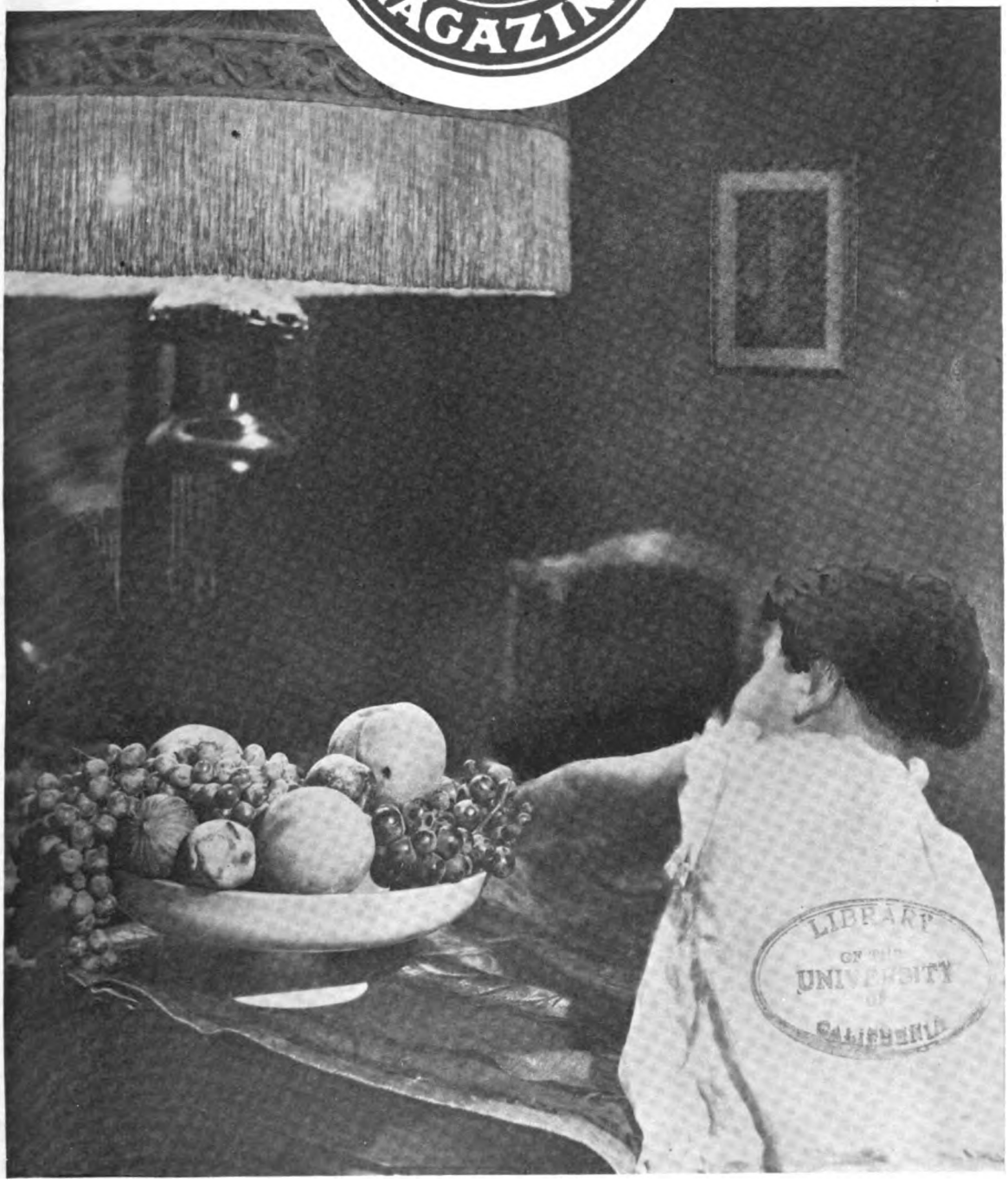

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"PEACHES, 'N FIGS, 'N GRAPES"

August, 1925 PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT & POWER CORPORATION Price 10 Cents

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San Joaquin Power Magazine

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VOL. VII AUGUST, 1925 No. 8

Valley Peaches Popular

Eastern Jobbers Show Unusual Interest in 1925 Pack Which Is Larger Than Last Year by 2 1/3 Million Cases.

THERE will be packed in California this year approximately eight and a half million cases of peaches. This is approximately two and one-third million cases more than were packed in 1924 and half a million less than the 1922 pack. Every indication points to a good market for peaches as fruit production is reported poor in regions outside of the Pacific Coast and the 1924 pack has all been sold, leaving the markets bare.

The moderate prices fixed by the canners on most lines and the prospect of a general shortage in practically all lines of fruit outside of Pacific Coast production are factors that have led to unusually active dealing in futures by the jobbing trade in the East. In fact, never before have Eastern brokers taken up futures in the California pack with such avidity as they are doing this year, and many brokers are not finding all the offerings they desire.

VALLEY PEACHES POPULAR

The excellence of the San Joaquin Valley pack is finding favor in the markets of the world. It is not uncommon for jobber to receive orders specifying certain packs from the San Joaquin Valley districts. This situation is easily understood when a tour of inspection is made of Valley orchards and packing plants.

From the delivery platform where the peaches are received the lug boxes are piled in a cool shed to be distributed among the long rows of girls and women who cut and pit the peaches. At this point the peaches receive their first inspection as to soundness and quality of fruit. Any spotted, decayed or bruised fruit is removed by the cutter.

As each box is cut it is sent to the washing and peeling machine. This operation consists of passing the cut halves through a bath of a weak solution of lye which softens the skin. From the lye bath the peaches pass through a washer which thoroughly cleanses the fruit, removing any loose skin that may remain and washing away all traces of the lye.

Passing over a conveyor the fruit is again sorted and inspected. The largest sizes are removed from the conveyor by one group of women and the next in size by another until all grades according to size have been selected. Broken and remaining smaller sizes go into pie fruit. The first size, selected from peaches of 2 3/8 inches in diameter or larger, is known as fancy. About 15 per cent of the average orchard run is in this class. The next size is choice and composes about 25 per cent of the pack. Then follows standard which is the largest in volume of any of the grades and composes 35 per cent of the accepted fruit. Seconds, water, and pie all follow in the order named and form about 25 per cent of the pack.

SYRUP IS ADDED

Premium prices are paid for the fancy packs. There are the peaches of high color that retail at 60 cents a can and contain 55 per cent of sugar in heavy syrup which is added before the cans are sealed. The choice grade, retailing at about 50 cents, contains 40 per cent sugar, while the standard, selling at 35 cents, carries 20 per cent sugar. Seconds have 10 per cent sugar while the water pack has about 6 per cent. These standards for sugar content have been set by the Canners League of California and are strictly maintained.

The grading and packing of peaches requires supervision from men of long

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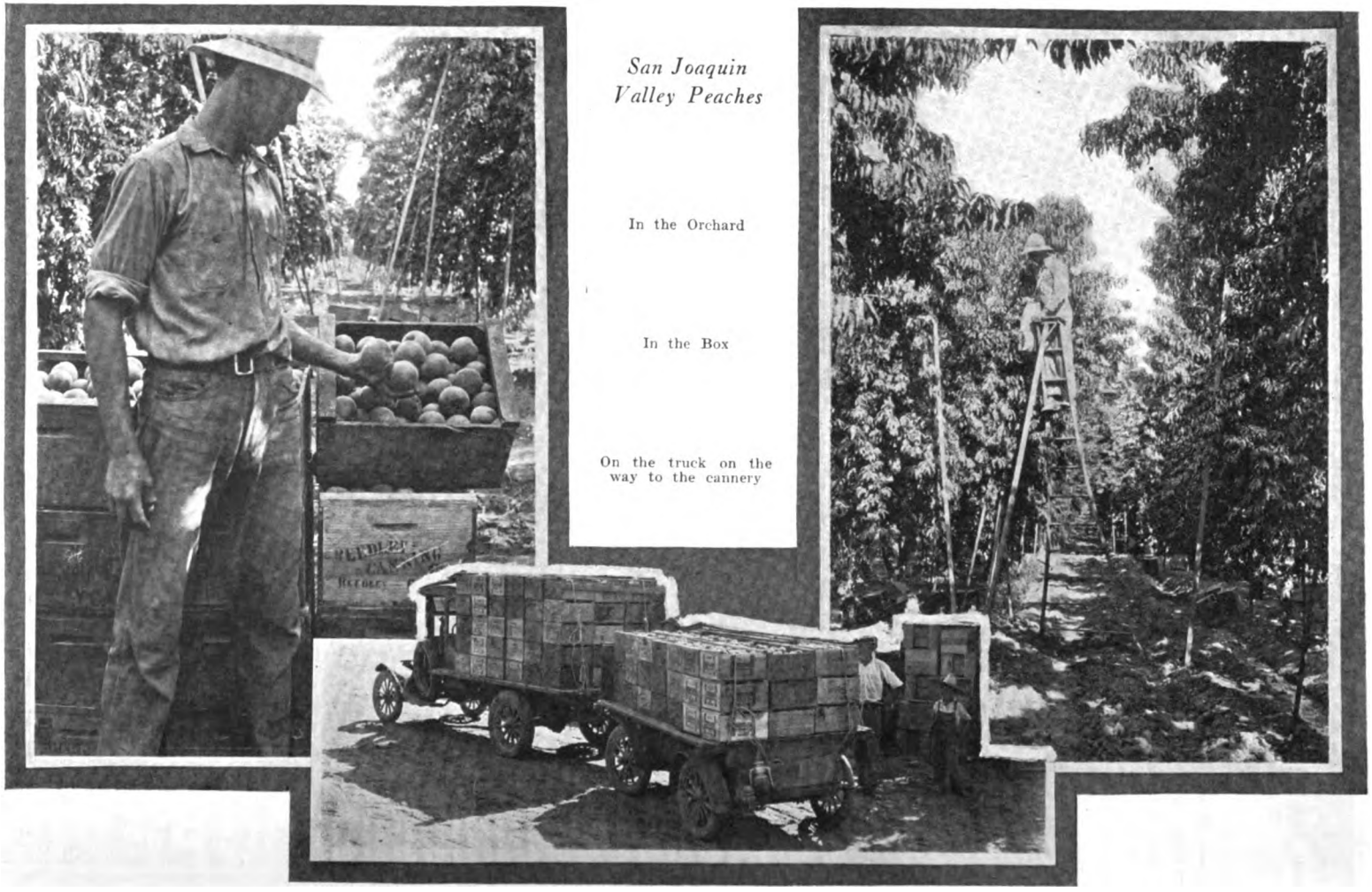

San Joaquin Valley Peaches

In the Orchard

In the Box

On the truck on the way to the cannery

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experience, who keep a close watch on the many operations. First in the code of the fruit packer comes cleanliness. Foreign matter of any kind is disastrous to a successful pack and every precaution is taken to impress on all who handle the fruit to observe the strictest sanitary measures. Plants are equipped with modern wash rooms and dressing rooms, where employees put on clean uniforms each day. Floors, tables, and all equipment are scrubbed and washed each day. A large percentage of packing house employees are experienced, following the work each year.

MANY EMPLOYEES ARE HOME FOLKS

It is interesting to note the large number of employees who maintain their homes in the cities in which the plants are located. While many packing house workers come in each season, transient help is greatly outnumbered by the permanent residents. With the experienced and skilled workers to form a basis for the organization, packing house managers soon have their plants working smoothly as the fruit season opens. The fruit moves through the plant with machine-like precision, turning out packs remarkable for uniformity.

The extensive use of electricity in modern packing plants has much to do with the efficiency and high quality of fruit packing. From the time the fruit is loaded on the platform to the placing of the label on the can, electricity enters into the many operations. Electric motors drive conveyors, graders, washers, lidding and labeling machines, while electric lighting makes night work possible with no reduction in output or lowering of efficiency.

In the Cannery.

Upper left.—Each peach is carefully inspected by the cutter as the pit is removed.

Center.—Placing peaches in the large No. 10 cans for hotel and bakery use.

Lower.—The peaches are carefully graded as they leave the peeling machine.

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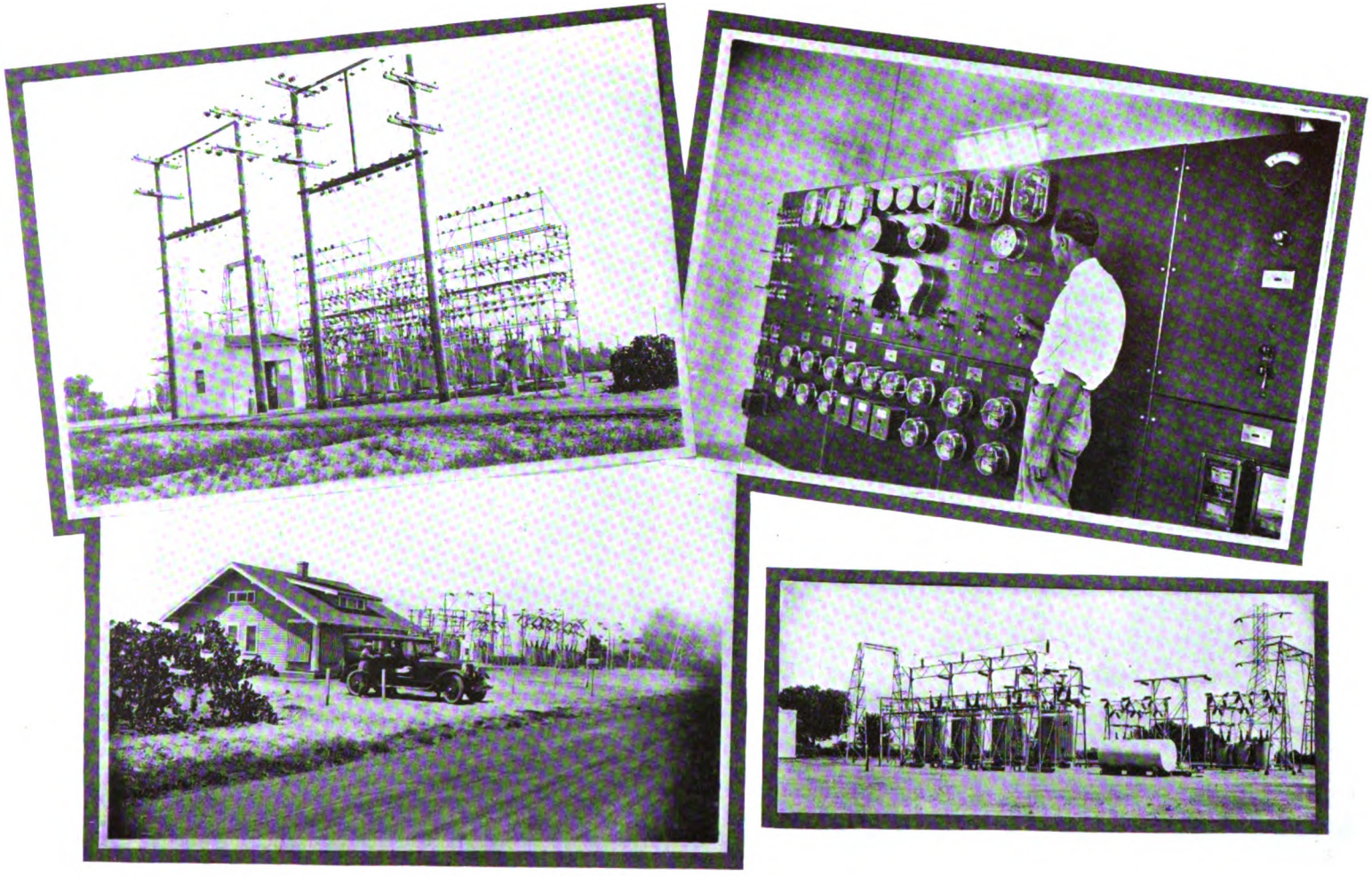

KINGSBURG SUBSTATION.

Above.—General view of substation from road showing switching gallery.
Below.—Operator's residence, completely equipped with electric range and hot water heater.

Above.—Instrument board and automatic controls in Kingsburg substation.
Below.—Transformer bank and transformer oil reserve tank.

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Three New Substations

Kingsburg, Le Grand, and Elk Hills Part of Million Dollar Program for Increasing Capacity to Meet Demand.

WITH the recent placing in service of the new Kingsburg substation, the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation has completed the 1925 program of substation and major transmission line improvements for the year, according to General Superintendent E. A. Quinn. The budget for these improvements covered an expenditure of $1,000,000 and included in addition to the Kingsburg substation, a new substation at Le Grand in Merced County, another near the Elk Hills oil fields in Kern County, and the rebuilding of a part of the Henrietta substation in Kings County. Transmission and distribution lines totaling 66 miles were added during the year.

KINGSBURG SUB COST $137,000

The Kingsburg substation, built at a cost of $137,000 on a five-acre site 3 miles east of Kingsburg, is equipped with four 5,000 KVA transformers, with a capacity of 15,000 kilowatts and the latest type of automatic controls. The substation is fed by a 110,000-volt transmission line and five circuits leading out serve a territory including the towns of Selma, Kingsburg, Traver, Monmouth and Laton and all of the interlying territory. Previous to July 1, when the substation was ready for operation, this territory had been served from four distant substations. The station was built to meet the continued increase in the power load. In 1924, the agricultural load in this territory was increased by 1,000 horsepower and up-to-date this present year approximately 1,200 horsepower has been added.

INDUSTRIAL LOAD INCREASE

There has also been a continued increase in the industrial power load in this section. The new Roberts Ice plant in Selma added 100 horsepower, Chaddock and Company of Fowler have recently increased their load, and Libby's Cannery carries 300 horsepower. The new station increased the voltage approximately 10 volts at each lighting and power installation, as well as giving an additional source of power in case of trouble on the lines.

LE GRAND SUBSTATION

The Le Grand substation, costing approximately $120,000, improves service in this vicinity, as well as benefiting the Dairyland and Madera substations. This is the most important substation on the 110,000-volt transmission system as three 110,00-volt lines come together here. One is from the Kerckhoff Power House, another from Merced, and the other from the Exchequer Power Plant of the Merced Irrigation District. Over this latter line the power developed at Exchequer Dam will be transmitted into the San Joaquin Power system.

Power is here stepped down from 110,000 volts to 60,000 and 11,000 volts through a bank of four 5,000 KVA transformers. Four 11,000-volt lines radiate from the station to serve the surrounding territory and one 60,000-volt line transmits power to the Dairyland substation and the 60,000-volt system beyond.

This is entirely an outdoor substation and incorporates what is considered the best in stations of its type and capacity. Two operators are employed here and a new cottage and garage have been constructed for each, the cottages being completely electrically equipped with electric range, water heater and numerous convenience outlets.

ELK HILLS SUB AUTOMATIC

At Elk Hills an automatic substation was completed on June 1, 1925, at a cost of $65,600. This type of station was developed by the engineering department of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation and is entirely automatic, requiring no operator. The station is equipped with three 11-KV circuits which serve Elk Hills, the Western Water Company, and the territory southwest toward Buena Vista Hills. This district was formerly served by lines from Taft, Midway Steam Plant and the Buttonwillow line, but owing to the increasing demand for electri-

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fication of oil fields the load threatened to increase beyond the available power supply. On June 1, 1925, Elk Hills territory had a connected load of 2,900 horsepower with a prospective additional load of 1,450 horsepower to be connected before the end of the year. To handle this load it was imperative that a substation be installed. The Standard Oil Company, Pan American Petroleum Company, Union Oil Company, Associated Oil Company, and Honolulu Consolidated Oil Company form the bulk of the load with their pumping motors, electrified shops and ice plants. The new substation has increased the voltage 15 per cent and will adequately care for the rapidly growing field.

HENRIETTA SUBSTATION IMPROVED

The Henrietta substation, located in the Corcoran district, between Westhaven, Stratford, and Lemoore, was primarily a switching station with indoor equipment consisting of a bank of four 500 KVA transformers. But general development of the surrounding country increased the power demand so that in the 1925 development program $58,000 was spent in the erection of a new outdoor substation on the site of the old one, with a bank of 1,500 KVA transformers serving the territory at 11,000 volts.

In addition to the four new stations, improvements in transmission lines have been made all over the system. New equipment was installed at the Sanger substation to the amount of $15,000. The Midway Steam Plant received improvements to the extent of $75,000. At an approximate cost of $194,000, sixty-six miles of high voltage line have been constructed. These extensions include; the Taft district, 4 miles; Midway-Wasco district, 13 miles; from Famosa to West McFarland, 10 miles; Weed Patch, 6 miles; Selma district, 10 miles; tie line from Bullard substation to Madera, 7 miles; and Ora Loma substation to Lyon and Hoag cotton lands, 12 miles. This increase in the network of power lines improves distribution to the developing territory served by the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation.

Plans are now under way for extensive improvements in substation transmission and distribution equipment to be installed during 1926.

Simplicity and convenience are the dominant features of the electrically equipped Sip-and-Bite lunch room at Fresno.

ELECTRIC COOKING MAKES BUSINESS FOR NEW CAFE

Electric cooking in restaurants and cafes is steadily increasing, as the many advantages of this method become more generally recognized. The strongest appeal made by electric cooking is the greatly improved quality. The simplicity of operation, cleanliness and convenience are important factors appreciated by the restauranteer.

One of the latest electric installations in Fresno is the Sip and Bite at 1320 Fulton Street. With no advertising or preliminary announcement this new place has done a record business since the opening. The quality of the food is such that customers gladly stand in line during the rush hours waiting for a seat. Much favorable comment is heard from customers who like the electric cooking.

The place is owned and operated by Chester Stewart, who has had no previous experience in the restaurant business.

Electric pumps under San Joaquin Power System pumped 1½ million acre feet of water during 1924, at an average cost of $1.24 per acre foot.

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Motorizing Crude Oil Pipe Lines

Economy and Efficiency of Electricity for Long Distance Oil Pumping Is Demontrated In Southern Oil Fields.

THE proven efficiency and economy of electrically-driven pumping stations on long distance crude oil pipe lines in Southern California fields is opening up another avenue of service in which the electric motor is doing work formerly done by steam.

This problem was worked out by the combined efforts of electrical engineers and pump engineers, the latter designing a special centrifugal pump to handle the oil.

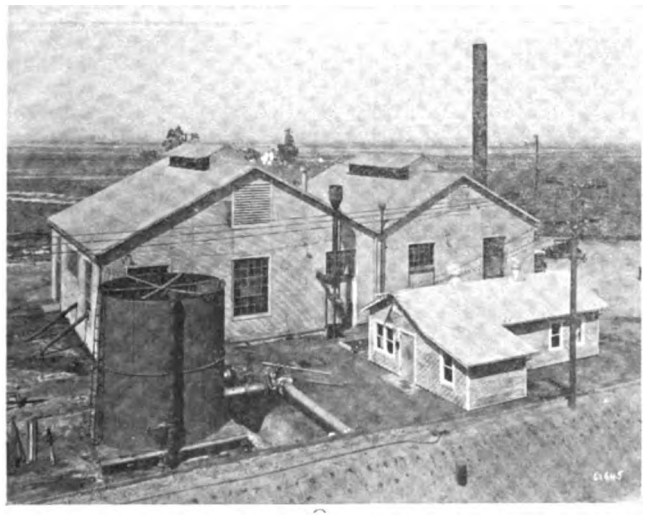
The experience of the Southern oil men in motorizing an eight-mile line is ably told in an article by Wm. N. Beadle, sales engineer for the Byron Jackson Pump Company, which first appeared in the Oil Weekly. Mr. Beadle is quoted in part as follows:

"A development in pipe line transportation of oil which bids fair to revolutionize this phase of the industry was given its first trial September 29, 1924, at the Watson Station on the Petroleum Midway's pipe line in California. At 12:30 p. m. on this date the first installment of centrifugal pumps on an oil pipe line was put in operation, pumping oil from the Watson tank farm to the marine loading station of the California Petroleum Corporation at Los Angeles harbor.

"The Petroleum Midway Company's pipe line extends from Signal Hill, through Willowville, to the company's tank farm at Watson, a distance of approximately four miles, and from Watson to the company's marine loading station at Los Angeles harbor, a distance of four miles, a total distance of about eight miles.

"Under the old method of pipe line power installation a large reciprocal steam pump with boilers, steam lines, etc., would necessarily be installed at the Signal Hill end of the line to pump the oil to the Watson tank farm. A second reciprocal steam pump and boilers would also be required at the Watson farm to carry the oil to the harbor.

"The centrifugal pump installation for this line as designed by Byron Jackson engineers, and installed only after considerable missionary work and under an unconditional guarantee, includes: One 200-horsepower Byron Jackson Centrifugal pump, direct connected to electric motor, operated with a hand starter at the Signal Hill end of the line; one 200-horsepower automatically operated pump near Willowville (midway between the Signal Hill end and the Watson terminal of the line, and connected directly to the line—no storage tank station being required); and three 200-horsepower pumps at the Watson Tank farm end of the line in Los Angeles harbor (one of the latter being installed as an auxiliary pump). These pumps are electrically driven, a feature which is expected to result in exceptional economy and requiring a minimum of space and attention.



The small building in the foreground is the motor-driven plant shown against a background of the steam plant it replaced at the Shell Oil Company's Signal Hill pumping station.

AUTOMATICALLY OPERATED

"A special feature of this installation is the automatically operated unit at Willowville. This pump is equipped with a Westinghouse pressure regulator which automatically starts the pump as pressure is built up when pump No. 1 at Signal Hill is started, and automatically throws out a switch which stops Pump No. 2 at Willowville, as the pressure is relieved by stopping the No. 1 pump.

"At the present time, the oil is being pumped from tanks at the Watson tank farm to the harbor by the two 200-horsepower pumps installed on the 10-inch line at this point. Tests made during the initial run showed the two units pumping 2,800 barrels of oil per hour, or 67,200 barrels per day, against a discharge pressure of 260 pounds.

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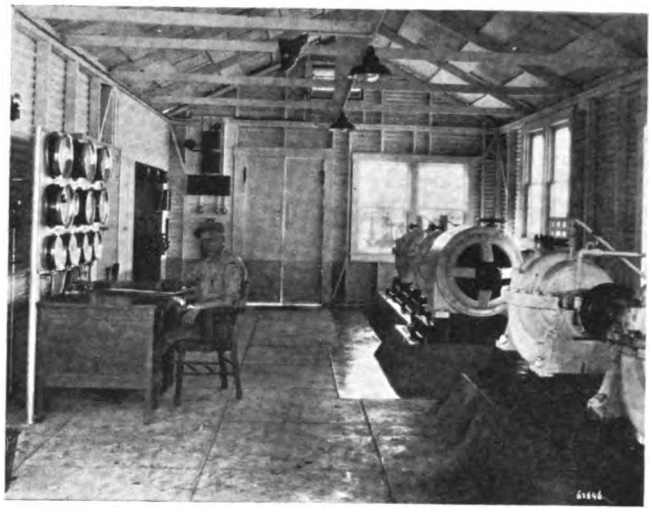


Two units of 150-horsepower each at the Signal Hill pumping station of the Shell Oil Company.

"The performance of the pumps excelled all expectations in their initial test run. This fact was emphatically proven when the men at the loading station found the 80,000 gallon tank overflowing before they realized that it was near being full. There are four 80,000-gallon storage tanks at the Marine loading station.*

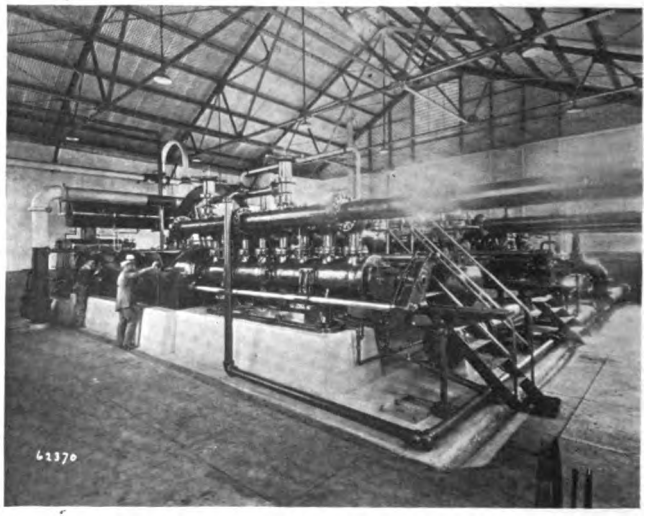
"B. F. Remington, the pipe line superintendent for the Petroleum Midway Company is very much pleased with the centrifugal installation and, although extremely dubious as to the practicability of centrifugal pumps for this purpose prior to the test, he is now a firm believer in them.

"Centrifugal pumps maintain an even flow through the line as they give a continuous nonjerky propulsion to the fluid. Due to the continuous uniform delivery of the centrifugal, the pipe line resistance, as measured by different investigators, is considerably smaller than when the same amount of fluid is pumped by reciprocating pumps, giving more or less variable capacity according to the number of their cylinders. Even with a large air cylinder for a "cushion" at the discharge, the capacity curve, drawn up on a time basis for any triplex pump and more so for any duplex pump, will be of a wave shape—which means that the oil in the whole line is accelerated and decelerated at the changes of the stroke. This causes the increased pipe line resistance in comparison with the centrifugal. Of course, the capacity of a centrifugal pump, drawn on a time basis, is for all practical purposes even for exact measurements a parallel line with the base—without any undulations."

*Since the results of this first installation have become known, many other large electrically-driven units have been installed by various oil companies operating in the Los Angeles Basin.

NO PRESSURE LOSS

"Plunger or reciprocal pumps cannot be installed on a line at intervals, as they cannot be timed to pump in unison and hence a "kicking" or back pressure would be set up between the pumps. The use of reciprocal pumps necessitates the maintaining of an exceptionally high pressure at the end of the line to impart the necessary force to carry the fluid to a tank where a second pump can "carry on." Such "tank stations" represent a considerable investment in tank equipment and real estate. With the centrifugal type of pump, any number of installations can be made at intervals in the line and each succeeding installation will utilize to the full extent whatever pressure is maintained by preceding pumps into the suction of the next unit on the line. To illustrate, if 250 pounds pressure is built up at the starting point of an oil line and a second centrifugal pumping unit, designed for 250 pounds pressure, is installed in the center of the line, assuming that a pressure of 50 pounds is maintained in the fluid when it reaches the second pump, on leaving the second pump, a pressure of 50, plus 250 or 300 pounds, would be registered in the line. Thus, the power cost represented by the 50 pounds excess is fully conserved, and not wasted as would be the case



The steam unit replaced by electric motors and centrifugal pumps at the Shell Oil Company's Signal Hill plant.

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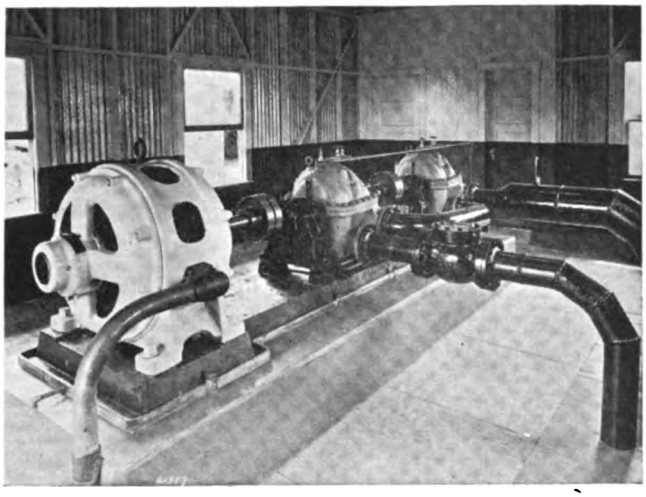


California Petroleum Corporation's plant at Signal Hill. This 200-horsepower unit delivering from 1,000 to 1,200 barrels per hour is enclosed in a building 18 by 28 feet.

if the oil were discharged into a tank and then picked up again.

"Another important factor under this heading is the great advantage of maintaining absolute control by means of a gate valve at the discharge end of the line. When the tank or oil tank steamship at the loading dock being loaded, becomes filled, the gate valve at the discharge point can be closed, cutting off the flow of oil without any hazard to the line. The centrifugal pump, due to its construction, which leaves considerable clearance between the blades of the pump or so-called "impeller" and the housing, will build up a certain "static" pressure after which it will cease to function as a pump, but will merely "churn" the oil within the housing, maintaining the "static" pressure but not delivering any oil. This has been demonstrated with a similar installation put in by the Byron Jackson Pump Manufacturing Company a short time ago when the gate valve on a line 17½ miles long, with a centrifugal gasoline pump designed for 650 pounds pressure, was closed. Many of the spectators sought places of safety, but everything remained intact, and after building up a static pressure of 835 pounds, the pump continued to "churn" the fluid in the housing with no further increase in pressure, and with no damage to pump or line.

PORTABILITY

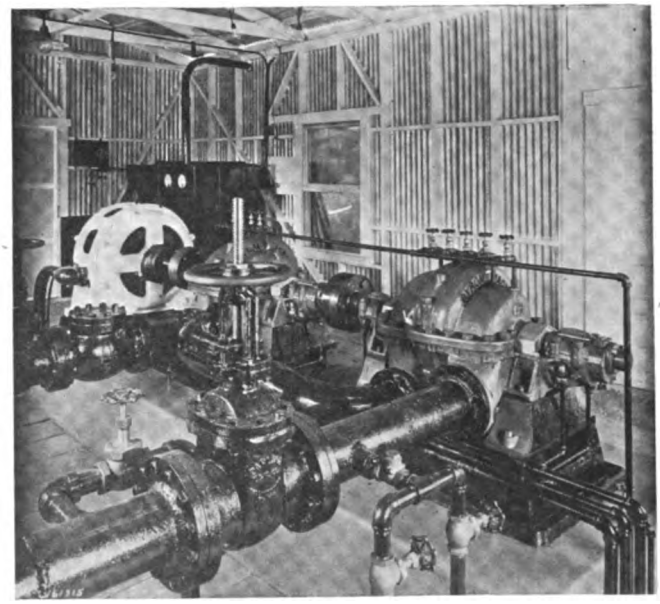
"The small size of the centrifugal pump compared to the size of the reciprocal or plunged type of like capacity is very marked. This may best be noted in the accompanying illustrations.

"It is needless to call attention to the difference in cost of transportation and handling charges. The space required for a plunger type installation (900 G. P. M.), is 35 feet by 60 feet compared to a space 10 feet by three feet for a centrifugal plant of 300 G. P. M. greater capacity. This excess is equal to about 10,000 barrels per day.

EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMY

"The centrifugal pump is more adaptable to electric power than is the plunger type of pump, as it is necessary to transmit electrical power to the plunger or reciprocal type of pump by means of gears and shafts or gears and chain drives, expensive both as to initial cost and maintenance costs. With the centrifugal pump, a direct connected electric motor is not only the most efficient power transmission, but has a considerably lower initial cost and a negligible maintenance cost.

While none of the main line stations in the San Joaquin Valley have so far been electrified, the increase in motor-driven gathering pumps has been very rapid within the past few years, and we now



Automatically controlled Willow Street station of the California Petroleum Corporation. This unit automatically cuts in when pressure comes on the line and cuts out when pressure ceases.

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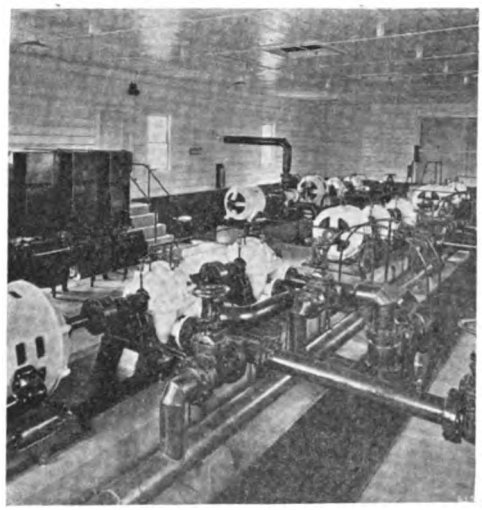

Interior arrangement of California Petroleum Corporation's main station at Watson.

have the following installed horsepower in this class of business in our own various oil field districts:

Taft - - -	885 h. p.
Bakersfield - -	350 h. p.
Coalinga - -	435 h. p.
Santa Maria -	70 h. p.
Total -	1740 h. p.

The developments that have taken place in this important phase of oil field work, and the results obtained, would indicate that electricity is destined to come into more general use in future pipe line installations.

U. S. BUREAU OF STANDARDS SHOWS BEST USE OF GAS

The difference between careful use of manufactured gas and careless use in the amount of fuel consumed in cooking is shown by tests made by the United States Bureau of Standards.

A light aluminum utensil holding two quarts of water was used, being kept on the stove in each case until the water was evaporated.

Here are the results:

Test No. 1. It was found that with a lid on the utensil, violent boiling (gas on full) consumed about nine times more gas that was necessary to maintain gentle boiling. Violent boiling required eighteen cubic feet of gas an hour; gentle boiling required two cubic feet.

Test No. 2. For gentle boiling about five times as much gas was used with the lid off; with lid off, 10 cubic feet an hour; with lid on, two cubic feet an hour.

Test No. 3. When violently boiled, water evaporated about as quickly with the lid on as with the lid off, and consumed the same amount of gas.

Test No. 4. Gentle boiling evaporated water about six times as fast with the lid off as with the lid on.

In connection with these tests, the report says: "Many cooking processes require the heating of the water up to boiling and the maintenance of the boiling temperature, 212 degrees Fahrenheit, until the food is cooked. Some people forget, or do not know, that water cannot be heated to a temperature higher than 212 degrees F. (except in a steam boiler) and that violent boiling does not accelerate the speed of cooking.

THE MAN, THE FEED, THE COW SECRETS OF DAIRY SUCCESS

There are three things that decide whether or not a dairyman will be successful, according to the Bureau of Animal Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture. These are the man, the feed, and the cows. An efficient dairy herd has to be made up of high-producing cows. A study of yearly butterfat and income records of more than 18,000 cows enrolled in cow-testing associations showed a rapid and almost uniform increase in income over cost of feed as production increased. These records showed that the cows giving 100 pounds of butterfat a year produced an average income for the farmer above feed cost of about $10; at 200 pounds of butterfat a year the income above feed cost averaged about $42; at 300 pounds a year the income was nearly $72; and at 400 pounds of butterfat each cow averaged a cash return of about $106 a year over the cost of feed. Unproductive cows should be weeded out of the herd and the rest fed in proportion to daily milk yield. The farmer's willingness to keep records and to act upon them is the third important factor in successful dairying.

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To Battle Puncture Vine Pest

Organized Effort Calling for Co-operation From Infested Counties Will be Made to Control Spread of Weed.

PLANS for stamping out the puncture vine in the San Joaquin Valley were outlined at a meeting of 40 representatives of organizations, farm advisers, horticultural commissioners, secretaries of Chambers of Commerce and others, called together at Madera August 22 by the San Joaquin Valley Regional Advisory Council of the California Development Association.

The gravity of the puncture vine infestation was brought out by reports from various localities in the valley where the pest is causing considerable trouble for farmers. The fact that the vine is injurious to automobile tires was not regarded as important. The vine is over-running fields in certain localities and if permitted to spread will cause considerable loss in certain crops.

That the weed has not become generally known in all counties of the Valley was made the basis of an appeal to various agencies to use every effort to fully acquaint farmers and the general public with the weed in its various stages of development so that special attention can be given to singling it out and destroying it wherever it appears. Samples of the weed are being placed in frames to be exhibited in post-offices and other public places so that it may be readily identified.

PROBLEM OF STATEWIDE IMPORTANCE

The Madera meeting was presided over by Ray Humphreys, who introduced William Corbin of the California Development Association, who acted as secretary. In his opening remarks Mr. Humphreys stated that the purpose of the meeting was to get the farmers, businessmen and bankers together to discuss the puncture vine menace and to formulate plans to eradicate the pest. The problem should be considered, he said, not as a county or even a San Joaquin Valley problem, but one of statewide importance. The remedy should be determined and a campaign so planned that each one present could carry back to his community the word that will crystallize public opinion in each locality to full co-operation in eliminating the pest. He further stated that everyone's presence there, at his own expense, was evidence that each had come for a definite, sincere purpose, and that purpose was the extermination of the puncture vine.

W. C. Jacobsen, Chief of Bureau of Plant Quarantine and Pest Control, State Department of Agriculture, outlined the history of the pest.

INTRODUCED FROM MEDITERRANEAN

"The puncture vine seems to have been brought into the United States from the Mediterranean countries in ship ballast," said Mr. Jacobsen, "and to have gotten into California in freight shipments from Texas, as railroad warehouses receiving heavy shipments from that state showed first developments of the pest.

"With the California Development Association taking a statewide viewpoint, we should get public interest crystallized to the point of fighting the puncture vine wherever found. This cannot be done by one county doing one thing and the other one doing something else, or possibly nothing. Highways and railroads are the main sources of scattering the seed. It follows that it is essential that their full co-operation be secured, if we would hope for eradication. The Highway Commis-

Closeup of puncture vine showing burrs containing seed, which are easily scattered.

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sion must be interested in this work to the point of full co-operation, in order to prevent spread by automobiles. The California Development Association is in close contact with these gentlemen, each having confidence in the other. The railroads must be interested, and this can best be done through the Development Association, which is in direct touch with the fountainheads of these transportation companies.

CO-OPERATION NECESSARY

"We do not want wildfire publicity, but conservative, earnest work and everyone united in statewide action, the supervisors, farm bureaus, town trustees, railroad officials, highway commissioners all co-ordinating through the California Development Association."

In discussing control of the vine, Elthelbert Johnson, Superintendent of Weed Control, State Department of Agriculture, said "We find the main increase of puncture vine along the highways and railroads. The vine is practically in every county through which the main arteries of commerce pass, reaching into Siskiyou County.

"Some reduction of the pest was noted last year, possibly because of the dry season, but this year shows wide-spread increase. We thought killing the young vine sufficient, but going back a week later we find more plants springing up.

PETROLEUM SPRAY AND BURNING

"Burning and petroleum seem to be the best method of destruction. Do not pick up the plants and carry to some convenient place for burning, as one is sure to drop the seed and thereby defeat the purpose intended. Killing the vine where you find it by fire and oil is the only safe way. Killing by spraying with oil when green requires more than one application. It requires at least two sprayings and burnings when the vine has become heavily matted on the ground.

"Test of seed well sprayed with oil after a month showed no life in the seed. The best oil to use is three parts crude oil, one part stove oil, which proves quite effective. Distillate will kill, but is expensive. Spray *first*, then burn afterwards."

The meeting closed late in the afternoon after adoption of a resolution providing for the formation of a committee co-working with the California Development Association which will submit a statement outlining the co-operation that may be expected from the California Development Association and to submit to each county a sample project or plan to be altered by individual counties as conditions may require. Horticultural commissioners from each county were made members of the committee and were given the privilege of selecting an additional member if desired. The meeting adjourned to meet again within two weeks as immediate action was desired.

FIRST BALE OF COTTON COMPRESSED AT FRESNO

The first bale of cotton to be compressed in the San Joaquin Valley went to the press of the Fresno Compress and Warehouse Company at Calwa on August 5, in the presence of more than six hundred interested persons from the Valley and Bay region who had gathered for the dedication of the new $100,000 cotton compress.

The bale of cotton was placed in the jaws of the huge press where it was reduced to one-third its original size. Then, bound by silver bands, it was presented to the Fresno County Chamber of Commerce in appreciation of their efforts in bringing the compress here.

This first bale of cotton will be followed by a large percentage of all the cotton from the valley's 90,000 acres which is to be compressed before it is shipped to the buyers, thus substantially lowering shipping costs by the decreased car space needed for the compressed bale.

First bale of cotton and the crew that compressed it.

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Western Power Control Changes

North American, One of Country's Biggest Utility Holding Organizations, Enters California Field by Purchase of Common Stock.

CONTROL of the Western Power Corporation is soon to pass to the North American Company, one of the largest public utility corporations in the country, according to announcement coming from President H. P. Wilson of Western Power on September 4. Western Power Corporation is the holding company for San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, the Great Western Power Company, and other California utilities. It acquired control of San Joaquin and its subsidiaries last December. The deal now under way has been difinitely accepted by the directors of North American, and needs only acceptance by the directors of Western Power. They are expected to ratify the transfer at an early meeting.

In a later announcement Mr. Wilson said that the North American's purchase of the Western Power stock does not contemplate an actual merger of properties, but is an investment only. The North American will control Western Power, he said, but the preferred stock of Western Power and its sinking fund of gold debentures would not be involved in the acquisition of the common stock. No changes in the management of Western Power are contemplated.

NORTH AMERICAN BIG COMPANY

The North American Company is one of the outstanding public utility holding companies of the country. It controls numerous light and power companies and street and interurban railway companies, its biggest subsidiaries being in Cleveland, Milwaukee, and St. Louis. This is its first investment on the Pacific Coast. The company's assets total around $400,000,000.

In response to a request from the Fresno Bee, President Frank L. Dame of the North American Company gave out the following statement:

"As our acquisition of Western Power Corporation has not yet actually taken place, your question, while a very proper one for a newspaper interested in the welfare of its community, must be answered in general terms for the time being.

"The North American Company is one of the oldest and largest public utility companies in the country. It gained and has held its present position by endeavoring always to follow a progressive course.

"The record made by the North American system in its territories, including Cleveland, St. Louis, and Milwaukee, where more than 670,000 electric customers are now served, is a record of efficient and adequate service.

"The North American Company laid down the following principle in 1905, even before the era of commission regulation, a principle to which it has adhered ever since and which applies throughout the system:

SERVICE HIGHEST REGARD

"The management believes that the policy which should govern the administration of public utilities, if they are to be stable and uniformly profitable investments, is to develop their facilities so that they may be adequate, not only to meet the present demands of the communities in which they operate, with service of the highest standard, but also to respond immediately to the growth of such communities and their business, however rapid it may be.

"The North American Company stands in a protective relation to these properties. It is not seeking to exploit them for present large profits. It holds their securities as permanent investments and seeks to establish them in the favor and confidence of the public by just such methods and efficient administration and to maintain their finances on the most conservative basis.

ORGANIZATION PLAN

"The North American Company does not operate a central management organization for its subsidiaries but holds officers of these subsidiaries responsible for carrying out the above broad policy, using the North American Company's strong credit position to assist these subsidiaries in cases of such necessity. Should the North American Company ultimately acquire these properties, I am sure the communities served will not have occasion to regret it."

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Cover Crops Prove Profitable

Sanger Farmer Says He Would Not Attempt to Operate His Place Without Them.

THE value of cover crops is not fully appreciated by the average fruit grower and vineyardist. Some phenomenal results have been obtained by this method of producing humus and nitrogen in the soil. A notable success has been obtained by H. P. Dralle on his 40-acre orchard and vineyard in the Sanger district.

Dralle sows his vineyard and orchard to Melilotus indica every year, and says he does not know just how to express himself as to the advantages derived from the practice. He would not attempt to operate his place without it.

His place consists of Thompsons, Malagas, Emperors, Muscats, peaches, apricots, and oranges, all of which now produce bumper crops of excellent size, color and quality that always sell at a record price.

The first two years Dralle tried Melilotus, he did not have much success. While he got a good stand, it made very little growth. He recalled that he had seen good crops of rye raised on very poor soil, so he sowed his orchard to rye and got a very rank growth.

The following year he again sowed Melilotus and got a fine heavy crop. Last spring he estimates he turned under from 12 to 15 tons of green manure per acre.

Dralle prepares his land the latter part of September, sowing the seed on dry soil, which he floods and handles in accordance with University of California Bulletin No. 136.

In the vineyard section of his place he sows each alternate row leaving a row for brush burning. He alternates the row plantings each year, thereby growing a cover crop between all rows every two years.

Increase Production by Cover Crops

Circular No. 136 University of California

Melilotus indica, or bitter clover, is now recognized as one of the leading winter cover crops, and does well in any land that will produce alfalfa.

The seed of this variety closely resembles that of alfalfa, and it is advisable to use from 20 to 25 pounds of seed per acre.

Experience has shown that it is usually better to sow the seed on the dry soil mulch in orchards rather than in moist soil just after irrigation, as is a common practice for peas and vetches. The irrigation furrows should then be made close enough together to permit of a complete wetting of the surface; otherwise, a poor stand may result. Wetting the surface

This Melilotus cover crop ran 15 tons to the acre in the orchard of H. P. Dralle, near Sanger.

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Only alternate rows were seeded to cover crop in the vineyard, leaving space for piling and burning brush.

after seeding usually firms it sufficiently to insure good germination. The seed bed should be prepared as for alfalfa planting, and the seed either broadcasted or drilled in. After planting, the soil should be firmed over the seed sufficiently to insure an ample supply of moisture for proper germination.

Under orchard conditions where spring plowing is done in February or March, it is advisable to sow Melilotus indica not later than September 15 if the best results are to be obtained. However, where adequate water for irrigation is available and late spring plowing is practiced, good yields have been obtained by seeding as late as December 1.

Yields—The tonnage of green tops produced by Melilotus indica has always compared favorably with any of the green-manure crops tested in California. Yields of green matter average about ten tons per acre under favorable conditions. In a test vineyard in Fresno County, more than forty tons per acre were turned under in one crop of this variety, but such yields are seldom obtained. It is also true that yields may occasionally be much below the average.

Plowing-under the crop—The degree of maturity of the crop when turned under is largely governed by the kind of soil and the moisture supply. On heavy soils aeration is an important factor and the best results on such soils are obtained if the crop is more mature and bulky when turned under. After plowing the crop under, the surface should be well disked in order to force the soil through the organic layer, thereby conserving soil moisture and permitting proper decay of the organic matter. If the soil is low in moisture, irrigation should immediately follow the plowing-under of the crop, as injury to the trees may otherwise result. After the crop is turned under, to insure a good stand, from two to four weeks should elapse before planting the field to other annual crops.

If double cover cropping is practiced on the medium to light-textured soils, both crops may be successfully disked into the soil, for it is not so necessary to have the green matter placed as deeply in the soil for proper decomposition where the surface is shaded during the summer months as where clean culture is practiced. On heavy-textured soils, however, the best results have been obtained where the cover crop is turned under deeply.

Under favorable conditions decomposition requires from two to four weeks and is most rapid in light-textured soils. An inadequate moisture supply after turning the crop under may defer decomposition two or three months or even longer.

Benefits—In addition to its physical improvement of heavy soils, Melilotus indica increases the water-holding capacity of all soils, and also adds about fifty or sixty pounds of nitrogen per acre, about two-thirds of which is obtained from the air. It also holds the moisture in the fertile layer of soil toward the surface where most of the available life-sustaining essentials of plants are found.

Melilotus indica has also been shown to develop a much more extensive root system than vetch or peas. It has a tap root system and although it is an annual, in six months after planting, tap roots were found to a depth of eight feet. This power of penetrating deeply into the subsoil is of great value in opening up the plow pan so common in many of the orchard districts of the State. It has also been shown where cover crops, especially those with tap roots, are grown regularly in orchards, that it is much less difficult to wet the soil deeply than where such crops are not grown.

The soil auger should be used in studying soil moisture conditions while growing green-manure crops in orchards because a deficiency of water in the soil during this period may easily offset their value.

HEAVY GRAPE TONNAGE PRODUCED BY IRRIGATION

W. T. Forkner attributes the record crop on his 16 acres of vineyard west of Selma to the fact that his vineyard was irrigated during the winter, starting in February, and frequently over the growing period, late into July.

The vineyard, operated by A. R. Hartley, produced from 9,980 Thompson vines a crop of 18,693 trays weighing 25 and 26 pounds to the tray, which was picked in July and dried to raisins. A section of vine, 30 inches in length and carrying 26 bunches of grapes, will be displayed in the Selma exhibit of the Fresno County Fair.

Mr. Forkner irrigates his entire acreage with a 7½-horsepower motor. His power bill for the year was only $98 of which $47 was paid by neighboring ranchers for water pumped.

The less a man's time is worth the less willing he usually is to take the necessary precautions for safety.

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LELAND ARTHUR WILLIAMS, JR., is an automobile expert, and knows the name of almost every car on the road. He says he wants to be an automobile painter like his dad.

ERNEST JOHN, 3; EVELYN BARBARA, 8; and LOIS MARIE, 6, are three jolly children of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Beall of Newman. The hobby of these youngsters is surf bathing of which they never tire. Their daddy is the leading jeweler and optician of Newman.

PHILLIP RILEY STARR, 18-months, is the jolly son of W. R. Starr, lineman in the Selma crew of San Joaquin Power. Little Phillips has the happy faculty of gettings things done for him that he cannot do himself, using signs, sounds and smiles, that he thinks everybody should understand.

MYRTLE MAY RANDOLPH is a sweet little miss of 3½ years, residing at Tranquillity where her daddy, Harper M. Randolph, is with the Standard Oil Company. Myrtle is paying for her stock by saving pennies and nickels, which her winning smile earns in large numbers. Anybody would gladly pay for Myrtle's smiles.

WM. BRUCE RICHARDS, 3½, is going to work in a bank like his daddy when he grows up. He is the son of W. B. Richards of the Bank of Kerman.

BARBARA POINDEXTER, 3, is the daught and Mrs. J. C. Poindexter of Lemoore

Little Stories About Little Fol Who Own San Joaquin Pou Stock

San Joaquin Power has more tha stockholders who are under 10 year The story of thrift and saving is these young folks are learning and ings from their stock will make a g egg" in years to come.

VERNON and ALTON CHINN, sons of G. B. Chinn, insuranc Vernon carries a newspaper money for him that is invest just had a fine vacation at

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the daughter of Mr.
of Lemoore.

tories le Folks Own in Power k

more than 1,400
er 10 years of age.
saving is one that
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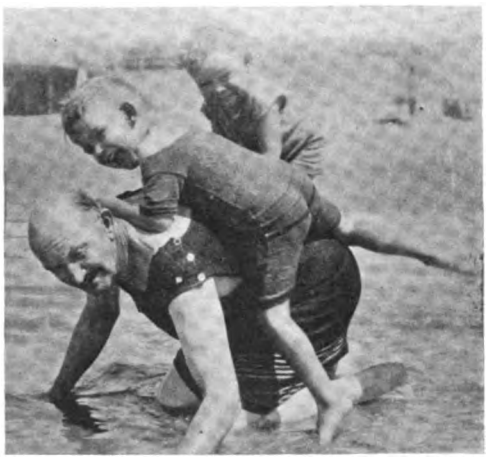
make a nice "nest

INN, age 9 and 4, are
rance man of Lemoore.
aper route which earns
nvested in stock. Alton
n at Pismo.

LLOYD E. HOLLISTER, 10, came to live in Dairyland when 8 months old and at one year his bank account was started with a deposit of $1.00. On each birthday a deposit of one dollar per year was made, which, with other earnings gave Lloyd $76.00. Desiring to buy stock and increase his interest from 4% to 7% he went to work irrigating alfalfa. His earnings enabled him to pay cash for one share and leave enough to make a big payment on a bicycle. He is the son of Milo Hollister, rancher at Dairyland.

JOHN W. HEKKET, JR., is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Hekket of Fresno, where Mr. Hekket is with the Peach and Fig Growers Association.

ELIZABETH ELEANOR ROBBINS, 5½, likes to play house and take care of her large family of dollies. Her daddy, George Robbins, is an employee at the Post Office where he has worked for 18 years.



ROBERT and JOHN PARRISH, making a hobby-horse of their grandfather, R. L. Coates, an old time member of the B. & K. Railway crew at Bakersfield. Robert is 4 and John is 2, and they reside at Needles, California, with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Parrish.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, 4, reads the comic page and rides his red racer on his daddy's farm in the Bender district, near Riverdale. John says he wants to be a farmer like his daddy.

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San Joaquin Power MONTHLY MAGAZINE

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS—It is the desire of San Joaquin Power that stockholders should receive this magazine without charge. It is assumed that one copy of the magazine will be sufficient for each family. If more than one copy is coming to you or your family, will you kindly notify us so that we may cancel from our lists extra copies not needed.

Address all communications, San Joaquin Power Magazine, Fresno, Calif.

AL C. JOY - - - *Editor and Manager*
SYDNEY W. GREEN - *Associate Editor*

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CHANGE IN COMPANY CONTROL

President H. P. Wilson of Western Power Corporation of New York has announced the sale of control of that organization to the North American Company, subject to acceptance of proposed terms and exchange of stock by the Western Power stockholders. He has also announced that there will be no change in the management of Western Power nor its two great California properties, San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation and Great Western Power Company. Substantially the same announcement has been made by F. L. Dame, president of the North American Company, which, he says, does not maintain a central organization for the companies, but holds officers of its subsidiaries responsible for the carrying out of certain broad policies. Companies affiliated with North American, says Mr. Dame, must set a high standard of service and must win and keep public favor and confidence by just methods and efficient administration.

The North American is a big holding company, operating in Cleveland, Milwaukee, St. Louis and several smaller communities. It is financially strong and the companies it controls are all conducted on a sound basis. San Joaquin Power is an organization that should fit admirably into the North American plan.

In any business transaction, an individual equation is always to be considered. And in this particular transaction the individual stockholder and the individual employee naturally are concerned as to the effect it may have on them personally. Therefore just a word to them:

Stockholders: Your investment has been made in San Joaquin stock because of your faith in its future and your knowledge of its strong financial position. It should be obvious that the North American Company has made its investment for the selfsame reasons. To you then comes the assurance that San Joaquin is stronger than ever in its financial support, that it is in the hands of an operating company which is not looking for immediate profit but is planning far into the future with unbounded confidence in the industry's destiny and with long experience to guide it; and that the properties behind your stock are as solid as the rock of Gibraltar.

Employees: San Joaquin has been a successful organization and this success has been due not only to managerial efficiency but to the energy and loyalty of each of us in his particular niche. San Joaquin must continue giving the best possible service, keeping itself not merely in but essentially of the community, and steadily building to meet the community's needs. The same individual tasks are here, the same individual opportunities exist. Our job is to continue making a success of the San Joaquin Company, so that not alone shall we be proud of it, but the community, our thousands of customer partners, and our new associates shall be proud of it as well.

WHAT'S YOUR LIGHT PROBLEM?

Sales Manager A. M. Frost is chairman of the Pacific Coast Geographic Division of the National Electric Light Association Committee. He is getting his division into action to take part in the national campaign to improve industrial lighting. And he is also getting hold of some interesting statistics, which show that 25 per cent of the work done in daylight hours is done by artificial light and that production is slowed up and efficiency interfered with in a large percentage of industrial institutions by inadequate or poorly installed lighting.

And this brings to mind the whole sub-

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ject of lighting—lighting for the home, the shop, the office or the factory. It wasn't so many years ago that a sixteen-candle power bulb suspended almost anywhere from a ceiling cord was held to be all that was necessary in the way of lighting. Today we know that there is a real science of illumination. Glare and gloom are not to be prevented by haphazard or amateur installation, and when glare and gloom exist there is eyestrain, slower work, decreased output, and general dissatisfaction.

We have men in our company who are illumination engineers. They have made a study of lighting and its problems. They are available to anybody, no matter what his lighting problem may be, to give advice and to demonstrate just why that advice is sound.

Have you any lighting problems? If you have, why not let Mr. Frost know about it? He'll send a man to look the problem over and advise you expertly on how to solve it. It may be that your factory, office, shop or home is inadequately or improperly lighted now. It may be that you are just building a home or shop or opening a new institution, and are not certain what you will need in the way of lights. We'll gladly furnish an expert to help and advise you.

WATCHING KINGS RIVER

Are you watching the progress of our Kings River project? Pretty fast work going on there, and everybody who has had the opportunity to look over the job has congratulated Superintendent of Construction Harold Fox on the way in which he is pushing the work forward. Sub-contracts have been let on the driving of the tunnel, and that job of boring through more than 19,000 feet of granite mountain will be under way almost immediately. The subcontractors merely agree to bore the tunnel at so much per foot. The job will be at all times under the supervision of Fox's staff.

It is a gigantic task, the building of this first unit on Kings River. It must be completed in just a little more than fifteen months. When it is completed, there will be available nearly 40,000 more horsepower for the system. Demand for electricity is steadily increasing and we shall have need for this power when it is ready.

We ought to begin to think now of the significance of this development. It means nearly 20 per cent increase in our generating capacity. That means a corresponding increase in all our activities and means, too, big growth in all the communities on our system and in their back country. Watch Kings River and think of it in terms of your community's progress. If you are a stockholder you will be more than ever satisfied with your investment; if you are an employee you will be more than ever satisfied with your job.

Courteous Service Slogan—
"You Can't Smile and Swing a Hammer"
—By William Jacobs

NATIONAL FORESTS DO BIG BUSINESS

A total of $986,646 was turned into the U. S. Treasury from the National Forests of California during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, according to statement by the San Francisco headquarters of the United States Forest Service. These receipts accrued from sales of Government timber, grazing fees, special use permits and miscellaneous business.

Under existing laws, 25 per cent of these receipts, or $246,160, will be returned to the State for road and school funds. An additional 10 per cent, or $98,464, will be available for use by the Forest Service for road and trail work in the National Forests.

This percentage of receipts returned to the State is an interesting contrast to some of the European countries which have Crown or National Forests. In Sweden, for example, only 3 3/10 per cent of the Crown Forest receipts are returned to the local communes.

In addition to the 10 per cent fund for roads and trails, the Federal Government will also expend, this fiscal year, the sum of $1,600,000 on National Forest road construction and development work in California.

Biltmore Waiter: "Want soup?"
Bill Rogers: "Is it good soup?"
Waiter: "Sure; fourteen carrot."

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Around the Loop

Bits of News and Gossip From District Managers' Reports and District Reporters' Notes.

FRESNO

By Battsinis Garrett

(Nom de Plume recently assumed by Garrett Van Buren.)

Once upon a time there lived, in addition to others, exactly three men all of whom were named Chester, excepting Harvey, and he was therefore christened Gerald. In their youth they spent their time freely, and from this simple method they had firmly impressed upon their minds the necessity of growing into manhood.

How the bunch received Garrett's new story.

The eldest, whose name was Oliver, became a blacksmith, and held this responsible position until he was finally obliged to abscond with the funds of the Brotherhood, for which crime he had formerly been officially hanged.

The second fared not so well, but was finally rewarded by being elected to an office in the village Guild, which was considered even more of an honor in those days than it actually proved to be. The reason for this was traceable to the fact that he later failed to satisfactorily answer all the questions in the final examination.

The third, Oscar by name, learned a trade, and hoarded his savings. It was, quite naturally, his wont to take no active part in civic work other than to sound the alarm in case of any disturbance not otherwise provided for.

The above is recorded for two reasons—first, reporters are paid—if any, by the inch of printed matter, and news is scarce. Secondly, I have always wondered if anybody really reads the stuff I write. This is a test. If I am alive three days after this is published, I will know that nobody does.

Among the most prominent engagement rings exhibited in the consumers' department is that of Gene McClain. She is to be married to Earle Shadle of Corcoran.

Vacation time is just about over. E. C. Van Buren has returned after spending among other things two weeks at Seabright. He left his family there for a few weeks more that he might become a temporary member of the Alfalfa Club, with the deuces wild. Bill Early went south, and L. L. Headley went north. Both have since converged. Mable Richardson has returned from Santa Cruz. Gus Kerner ambled southward, and additional vacations have been taken by Dorothy Vogler, Audrey McBride, Dorothy Dreblow, Marie Turner, Dan Legler, and others who left without filing schedules of their itinerary with the official reporter or the chief of police.

We extend our deepest sympathies to our district manager, P. B. Wilson and his family, in the loss of Mrs. Wilson's father, A. W. Zimmerman. Mr. Zimmerman had been an employee of the San Joaquin Light & Power Corporation at Dairyland for five years. His five-year service pin was sent to him on the day of his death.

With the Fall return of the families of its respective and respected members, the Alfalfa Club is slowly, but certainly, becoming disintegrated. The membership list for next year will open and close alternately. Any person desiring admission had best keep quiet about it next year—even then, I'm not sure.

Miss Elsie Gieger, our society reporter, has performed the world's stellar feat of absentmindedness. A few days ago she complained of a stinging sensation in the region of her face. At the same time, one of the other girls noticed that the white polish on Miss Gieger's shoes was not adhering properly, but left footprints about her desk. A little investigation of the contents of two packages or small boxes in Miss Gieger's collection of toilet accessories proved that that was exactly what had happened.

Miss Donna Wood of P. B. Wilson's office is Miss Donna Wood no longer. She now signs herself Mrs. Ward Spencer Williams, with quite a flourish on the Mrs., which is still quite new. This title she acquired on September 5. The wedding was an elaborate affair, church, veil, flowers, bridesmaid, and groom, and even a reception afterwards. The honeymoon is being spent along the coast. Donna's friends in the company presented them with an electric percolator and good wishes.

"O" STREET SUBSTATION

M. E. Ballantyne, *Reporter.*

August brought the climax of the vacation fever.

Paul McCorkle and party motored up Redwood Highway to Grants Pass and down Pacific Highway home. William McKenzie and wife "automobiled" (Mac wants it understood that he did not "motor") to Humboldt.

Jack Taaffe and Albert Collins frolicked away their vacations in the Pismo waters. A. S. Roughton was also at Pismo for a week before going to Bass Lake but he spent his time perfecting the Pismo Wiggle. He is quite a finished artist now.

J. E. Mergenthaler pursued the fish in the Helms Meadow country. Arthur Rudd pursued nothing but the winding road which led him in and out all over California.

Our substation "caretaker," Mel Fowler, spent the first two weeks of August in San Jose

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and Capitola. Mel reports that "every little thing was in fine shape."

CONSTRUCTION-SERVICE DEPARTMENT

IDA BEVERLY OSBOURNE, *Reporter.*

Arthur Danks came back from his vacation to join the ranks of the married men. His wedding bells rang in Visalia, where Miss Lucille Martin became Mrs. Arthur Danks.

A. M. Hensley spent ten days among the big trees in General Grant Park, just resting. 'Tis a wise man that considers vacation and rest synonomous.

Casualities have been running heavy. Bert Collins was laid up with a broken toe and K. R. Hall has been carrying around a broken arm. Frank McCamish was also a bit unfit for a few days but his disability was premeditated. For months he had been collecting the courage to part with his tonsils.

There is another small claimant for membership in our big San Joaquin family. She arrived at the home of C. E. Stockholm August 25 and her name is Marceline.

GENERAL OFFICE

Reporting business is picking up this month, with three weddings to report from the General Office. One of these would have been properly reported several months ago had not L. A. Wilson been so secretive, and waited more than two months before breaking the happy news to us. We were somewhat disappointed that L. A. should fall for the wiles of Cupid as we always regarded him as one of our most eligible and dependable bachelors.

The other two husbands were members of the popular younger set, as society editors like to say, namely, Sid "Red" Phillips and Claude W. B. Sterling. Red was married in Madera on August 22 to Miss Dorothy M. Puccini of Fresno. After a short honeymoon at Huntington and Santa Cruz, he came back to the office and announced his husbandhood. The bunch soon recovered sufficiently from the surprise to pool pennies and present the Phillips with an electric waffle iron. And now each morn the tantalizing aroma of crisping waffles is wafted from the new home on Clinton Avenue.

Claude Sterling combined vacation and honeymooning at Santa Cruz following his marriage to Miss Eileen Ayers of San Francisco on September 3. The Sterlings are now quite settled in their home at 934 Harrison Avenue. While the romance has its start in California, the Sterlings hailed from the same town in the East and can spend the long winter evenings talking about the folks back home.

Another young man who is having his ups and downs in life these days is Clyde Hall, new elevator boy. Hall takes the place of Ted Scheidt, recently promoted to Phil Ramer's duties as elevator starter and general utility boy. Phil is now engineer's assistant.

The sympathy of San Joaquin Power is extended to J. D. Cole of the supplies division in the death of Mrs. Cole, who very suddenly passed away at Monterey.

It is still open season for vacations and people are going, gone, and coming back as follows: Mrs. E. A. LaMour, Pearl Babcock, San Francisco; Ray Morrison, back East, principally New York; Clyda Weems, Lura Weems, Olive Shook, Boulder Creek; Mayme Harrison, Camp Nelson; Catherine Warren, Monterey; Gladys Herrick, Dinky Creek; Sadie Beatty, San Francisco; R. B. F. Chisholm, Oakland; Mrs. Anna Smith, Reno; Katherine Barnes, Los Angeles; Louise Thompson, San Francisco.

A vacation shrouded in mystery is that of Ed Carlson and Bill Walker. One week was spent in Long Beach, which was right enough. The second week was to have been spent making the Jubilee a success in San Francisco but in driving up from Long Beach, Ed and Bill were waylaid at Pismo, with the result that the bay city crowd was shy two people. The clams at Pismo, on being interviewed, shut right up and would give no information regarding the goings-on of the loiterers.

Life is flowing smoothly at the J. E. DeGroot home with the return of the family from a summer spent in the East and Los Angeles. We did not learn whether or not Jimmy was a member of the "Alfalfa Club" during his bachelorhood. The fact that he installed a new radio is a very good alibi that he wasn't.

The organization was saddened by the untimely drowning of Robert N. Danielson in the Kings River on September 14. Danielson, who was 23 years of age, was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Leopold A. Danielson, substation operator at Kings River. He was attending a family picnic when the tragedy occurred. Sincerest sympathy is extended to the bereaved family.

Laura Theile of the stock sales department was one of two delegates representing Fresno at the State convention of Professional and Business Women's Clubs at San Jose, September 10, 11 and 12. Approximately 250 delegates convened to represent a membership of more than 6,000 in the state. All sessions were interesting and very much worth while, dealing with problems concerning women in business. Miss Theile is secretary of the Fresno Club.

Shelby Sparkman of the typing department has been transferred to the sales department to fill the position vacated by Jule Gleason. Jule is now secretary to E. R. Banks.

Nell Scanlon Woods is leaving the company on October 1 to the extreme regret of her many friends. Nell has been with us for six years and has won a wide circle of friends among fellow employees.

"And the Irish shall be there," said "Micky" Eleanora Sullivan and Jule Gleason as they started off for the Diamond Jubilee.

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Marie Steinhauer, telephone operator, also went to San Francisco over the Labor Day week-end. She returned wearing a diamond which, in the eyes of our startled reporter, assumed the general proportions of a good-sized walnut.

Jeanette Bowers, also of the telephone office, went to Sacramento to attend the State Fair.

Several former employees visited the general office recently bringing with them probable future employees. Dorothy Thompson Couse and little Carolyn Nell, Flossie Henderson Hudson and Graves, Jr., and Nell Garretson Coffman with Charlotte Jane were those who said "Hello" to the eighth floor. After being duly poked by well-meaning but uncomfortably pointed fingers and "goo-goo-ed" at, the infants with their mothers departed midst a chorus of by-byes.

Speaking of babies, Robert Tollen Martin is now sending out his calling cards with those of his proud parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert O. Martin. Cigars were in abundance on September 8 at the print shop where Bob was receiving congratulations.

Another event calling for cigars and congratulations was the arrival of Miss Ruth Wolcott at the L. O. Wolcott home on September 7.

The shortest meeting on record of the Fresno San Joaquin Power Club was held Tuesday evening, September 15, when about thirty-five members were called to order by President F. V. Boller.

The only item of business transacted was the election of a nominating committee to prepare two tickets for a complete set of officers to be voted on October 13. The names of Paul B. Wilson, Clyda Weems, and J. B. Carter were offered by President Boller and unanimously elected. The meeting was followed by dancing when the crowd showed up. It is evident that the Fresno Power Club is interested in dancing if nothing else.

Announcement was made of a membership contest to start September 21 and end October 31, for which prizes will be awarded to the three most successful contestants.

Mrs. Betty Runnels conducted one of the jolliest meetings held by the Girls' Club at Hotel Fresno, September 15. The outstanding feature was the selections rendered (or rather rended) by the improvised orchestra, the members playing "Where Did You Get That Hat?" "Auld Lang Syne," or whatever else struck the individual fancy. To these sweet strains entered winsome models in a millinery revue, who cavorted blythly betwixt the tables. Lil Broeker won the prize for the most fetching creation, which must be seen to be appreciated. Prize was two balloons on a stick, which Lil promptly added to the trimmin's on her hat. After the luncheon, Dean G. R. E. MacDonald made a 20-minute talk on the "Influence of Women in Business."

BAKERSFIELD

ALBERTA LOVE LEACH, *Reporter*

AMONG OURSELVES

The Welfare Association will resume Fall operations with a meeting on September 14. Business of the organization was suspended during July and August, on account of vacations and warm weather. It is planned to have the Annual Fall Banquet September 28, which time all employees will be privileged to attend. The Girl's Club also has suspended summer meetings but will hold a special meeting soon.

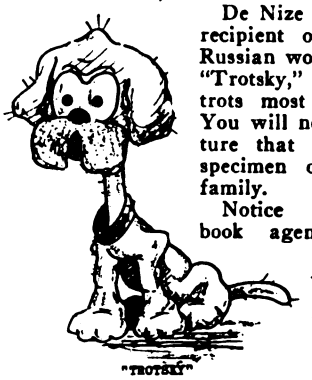
The local office has been the scene of continuous hand-shaking, congratulations and the presentation of gifts to newlyweds who have returned from their honeymoons. John Ryan, who married Chloris Bender on August 1 at Santa Monica, spent three weeks with his bride in Oregon. Thelma Smith, who married Albert L. Smith on August 20 in San Jose, spent a honeymoon at Del Monte, Carmel-By-The-Sea and Santa Cruz.

E. Jeannette Marvin, "That Red-Head Gal," is leaving the employ of the company, after being with us for over two years, to enroll in Egan's School of Music and Drama in Los Angeles. We will miss Jeannette, but we realize she has a future other than here.

T. G. Conner, our congenial counter man, who always has a smile for the consumer, is spending his vacation with his daughter, Mrs. Jesse Thompson, at Kerckhoff.

Thanks, Mrs. Letchworth, at least five girls of the Bakersfield office surely consider themselves lucky! Mrs. Letchworth was kind enough to send five pretty aprons made by the Automatic Washer Company for distribution by a drawing. The girls who drew them were Jeannette Marvin, Marie Reeves, Evelyn Riggs, Thelma Smith and Georgia Stroble.

Helen Bumgardner has resigned her position which she held with the company for several years, to resume household responsibilities, and work for one man, instead of a whole company.



De Nize Lohman is the recipient of a beautiful Russian wolf-hound name "Trotsky," — because he trots most of the time. You will note by the picture that he is a rare specimen of the canine family.

Notice to salesmen, book agents, collectors, solicitors, etc. — Do not waste any time on the following: George Harris, Evelyn

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Marsh, Georgia Stroble, Liston Powell, Jeannette Marvin, James P. Kastl, Ethel Bickerdike, Riggs, Everett Austin, Bess Johnson, Harold Curtis Gilbert, Madeline App, H. W. Walford, Alberta Leach and Jack Kearns. They have just returned from their vacations.

Marie Reeves and Kathleen Evans are spending the summer at the App Villa on Brundage Lane. They are ushered to and from work in a shiny limousine, behind a colored chauffeur.

Reports from the Southern beaches, indicate that "Captain Ace" Meudell is enjoying his vacation, or annual summer frolic. One story has it that a bevy of Mack Sennett bathing beauties were waiting at the beach to greet Ace when he drove up. Ace became so confused at this display of undue familiarity that he dashed madly into the new Seal Beach power plant where he found protection behind a 60KV buss bar and screamed "Avant, vampires! Not one step further." He was rescued by Mrs. Meudell an hour later suffering from severe nerve shock, but has since entirely recovered.

IN THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Russell Sartor spent his vacation the last two weeks of July in San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego and Tiajuana. Russell says that he was pinched twice,—once for driving too fast and another time for exceeding the speed limit.

Anna De Courcy is recuperating from two strenuous weeks in Los Angeles and Sequoia National Park. While in the park, Anna had several narrow escapes from wild bears probably wanting to hug her, and while in Los Angeles,——well, we better move on to the next item.

Jessie L. Thompson, who has been substation inspector in the Bakersfield District for the past six years, was promoted to the position of superintendent of the Kerckhoff Power House, and took up his duties September 1. This is a well-earned promotion for Jessie who has always faithfully and cheerfully performed his duties.

J. A. Schuyler and L. E. Flinn were also vacationists during the month, the former having gone to Los Angeles, and the latter to Santa Cruz and Vicinity. (Editor's note.—This last named place does not appear in the postoffice directory. Who knows where it is?)

O. C. Brevig, with his family, spent two weeks at Pismo, while Ernie Rosenberg is supposedly hidden somewhere near Bishop, where fishing is good.

B. & K. TOPICS

A small crew of track men is busily engaged in raising low joints and making such other track repairs as are necessary to put the tracks in first class condition again. This is the first general repair that has been found necessary since the rails were laid in 1912.

During the month R. F. Coates, shop man, and D. Jump, track foreman, were vacationists.

G. W. Johnson is away on his vacation and R. F. Coates is taking care of the rolling stock in his absence.

W. F. Pullen, car operator, had the misfortune to lose his year-old grandson, who passed away August 11. The sympathy of the entire organization is extended to him and his family.

BAKERSFIELD STEAM PLANT

E. J. Prindiville of the Bakersfield Steam Plant is the proud parent of an eight-pound son, born August 19, 1925.

Bill Kennard is going to hie away to the mountains, to study nature and act natural.

M. L. Crum and Walter Johnson took a little trip to Hollywood on location. They didn't say whether they located or not.

Those on vacations during the month were L. Gestner, Al Stewman, W. K. Fraser, Tom Hart, Sam Potts, Wm. McElligott, Ora Scism, and Jack Elliott, who has gone to Tiajuana.

MIDWAY STEAM PLANT

R. A. Wittick and William Laurie have left the employ of the company to make their homes elsewhere. Mr. Wittick has gone to Chicago and Mr. and Mrs. Laurie to Winnipeg, Canada.

People are still coming home from vacations. Mr. and Mrs. Grover C. Hess started at Pismo but ended up at Tiajuana. Jack Lewis investigated San Diego and surrounding country; Mrs. Agnes Kenley, with her son, daughter and grandchildren visited San Diego, Long Beach, and Redondo.

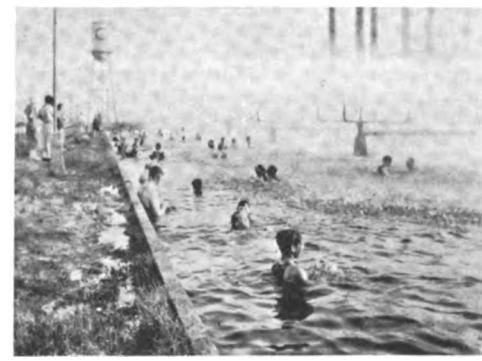
Bakersfield can boast of two fair eastern visitors: Miss Frances Mapes from Clearfield, Pennsylvania, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. G. Z. Ogden, and Miss Florence Prewett has come from Arkansas to spend her vacation with her aunt, Mrs. Gilstrap.

D. J. Fulton had the best of surprises this morning when his mother, Mrs. Fulton, came from Chowchilla Valley to visit him.

Laughing at the blistering sun from the depths of the swimming pool formed by the company's 190x290-foot tank, where the water from the condenser is sprayed into the air to be cooled, Shafter guests of Mrs. G. E. Overman enjoyed a swimming party on August 13. The guests pronounced the pool a positive antidote for a summer overdose of King Sol's rays.

GAS DEPARTMENT

Clarence Wooden, with some members of the consumers' department who prefer to remain unnamed, tired of the turmoil of labor and city



The Midway cooling pond at Buttonwillow is a popular resort during the summer.

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life, recently started forth for a quiet ride into the great open spaces. Round about was peace and calm as the miles quietly slipped from under the little cut-down Ford. Suddenly, the vehicle, even as it had previously been shorn of its conventional body, was shorn of its docility of spirit. The call of the wild seemed to have fatally pierced the hood. The Ford rose, it rattled, it seemed as possessed of seven devils——Later we beheld the sad return of the peace-seeking victims, stooped beneath the weight of maledictions to heap on all Fords, yet with expressions of weary resignation, they came—bearing their many bruises.

In five days the King Lumber Company consumed 5,000,000 feet of gas in burning one kiln of brick.

MERCED

AGNES P. KNAPP, *Reporter.*

W. Forshaw's gang have just completed changing the copper on approximately 13 miles of 10-KV line in the El Nido circuit and are now working on the re-building of 10 miles of line and stubbing poles between Mt. Gains and Merced Falls.

August claimed its share of vacationists from the Merced District. W. L. Blake, E. Anderegg, Geo. Turpen and Morgan E. Herron all put the cares of labor behind them for a couple of weeks. F. L. Garbarino, troubleman out of Livingston, and J. A. Archibald from the district foreman's office spent their vacations in San Francisco. Mabel Keyes, consumers' clerk, went south to Los Angeles, Long Beach, and San Pedro.

F. P. Crockett, line foreman, spent the first two weeks vacationing in Washington and Oregon, stopping at Klamath Falls and Mt. Shasta, en route.

Melville Wood left September 6 for a month's vacation in the East. His destination is Detroit, but he plans several other stops.

Miss Lucille Barrett of the job and estimate department left the employ of the company on September 1. She has been an efficient clerk in our office for over a year and we regret to lose her as a member of our organization.

The San Joaquin Power Club gave a party Saturday, September 12 for G. H. Bransford who is taking a three months' leave of absence, beginning October 1.

The Power Club Orchestra played for Farm Center meetings at El Nido, Livingston, and Tuttle during the first week in September. The program included a duet by Mrs. W. E. Sumner and Mrs. E. C. Evans and a solo by Miss Flora Snyder. At the Livingston meeting, Mr. Casad gave his talk on the Farm Bureau Traveling Conference.

. Several from the Merced office spent the holidays in San Francisco attending the Jubilee. They were Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Summer, Miss Clara Fretitas and Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Baker.

Courteous Service Slogan—

"Just Keep A-Smilin'"

—By S. E. Dillon

SELMA

HOWARD H. YOUNG, *District Manager.*

Miss Thelma Cargile, our efficient reporter, has been transferred to A. S. Walthall's harem at Fresno. This notice will be the official announcement of the appointment of a new reporter for the Selma district in the person of Herb Edman, lately of Kingsburg, who serves in the capacity of assistant chief clerk in the Selma office. Herb is vacationing in Oakland and these notes are being prepared by his co-workers, so next month will mark the official debut of our new reporter.

As Garret Van Buren of Fresno, the star reporter of reporters in these columns, states that "vacations constitute legal and acceptable news items," following is a list of vacations of members of the Selma force together with the place or places said vacations were spent.

Priscilla Olsen spent two weeks at Pasadena with her parents. She reports a very good time and as evidence is sporting a heavy coat of tan acquired at the southern beaches.

C. N. Van Zile returned from two months vacation spent touring throughout the east. "Red" claims to have visited thirty-six states on his sojourn and has returned a sadder and wiser man, realizing that after all California is the favored spot of the gods.

H. H. Tooker, service man at Caruthers, spent two weeks of the month at San Diego and a few hectic days in Tia Juana. Henry reports a very moist time but he managed to get back without being arrested more than once.

Howard H. Young spent a week with his parents in Los Angeles and reports a very entertaining visit, being shown many points of interest in and about Los Angeles by his brother.

Harold Bohl is still on the casualty list with a broken shoulder bone inadvertently acquired when his car "collisioned" with another car in Selma several months ago. Harold will be on the job some time during September.

Mrs. Lola Anderson, whose name was Lola Jones before she acquired a husband, after four years of service as a clerk, has left our employ to take up more actively the duty of housekeeping.

Frank Edsal, storekeeper, has been transferred to Fresno in the stores department under O. M. Simpson. We all wish Frank good luck in his new position. Pete Peterson has been elevated to the position of storekeeper on Frank's promotion and is wearing an air of importance and authority in his new job.

Heather Savage Wray who was employed in the Selma district about eight years ago as storekeeper and who is now employed in the appliance department of the Arizona Light & Power Co. at Tuscon, Arizona, was a visitor at the office during August on his way to Yosemite Valley to spend a week's vacation.

Your reporter has often wondered about the origin of the phrase, "horse sense," but a story

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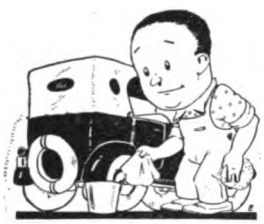
vouched for by Carl Foster, former inspector in this district, who is now employed on the Kings River project, proves the basis for the expression. Carl and a party of fellow workers went fishing one evening after work, taking a pack horse along to do the heavy hauling. They fished until dark and starting to return to camp, found they were lost in the forest and were unable to locate any familiar land marks to direct them to camp. Carl hit upon a brilliant idea of the horse leading them to camp and grabbed the horse by his tail while the other members of the party hung on to Carl. Giving the horse a free line, they were led safely back to civilization. Anyone in doubt about this may correspond with Carl Foster, who will furnish the name of the horse on application.

Other districts report numerous cases of vacation fever. While we have felt a few mild attacks ourselves, the most serious epidemic in the Selma District is that of buying new cars. G. B. Finney has just purchased a brand new Studebaker. We wouldn't want you to tell a soul but we have seen Mr. Finney yawning the last few days. Breaking in new cars makes heavy demands on night hours, it would seem. G. D. McNeill purchased a Star touring to try out while on his vacation. Harry Grimes appeared at the office wearing a knowing smile and informed the "gang" that he had invested in a new Dodge sport touring. There are three or four others who have symptoms of car fever that may develop into new cases unless some antidote is found.



The girls of the Selma District thank Mrs. Nyra Letchworth and the Automatic Electric Washer Company for the attractive rubber aprons which were sent to the Selma District. The girls were all anxious to have one of them but as there were not enough to go around, it was necessary to draw for them. The lucky girls were Bess Freelove and Ruth Foster. Bess especially appreciated hers as she has just recently become a blushing bride and the apron will help out while she is "kitchening."

Among those who have just recently returned from their vacations and those who are going are Mrs. Rena Stevenson, who divided her vacation between San Francisco and Santa Cruz; Priscilla Olsen is visiting her parents at Pasadena; M. H. Overton tried his new Dodge out by making a thirteen-hundred-mile trip, taking in all of the Coast cities; D. J. Fickert, wife, and twin boys are making a two-weeks' stay at Yosemite; John McCoy is also at Yosemite; and G. D. McNeill, who is touring the country, taking in Lake Tahoe, Mason Valley, and Nevada.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Lionel Henderson in the loss of his father, R. V. Henderson of Fowler.

LOS BANOS

WILBUR A. MACY, *Reporter.*

On the evening of August 18, members of the force and their families surprised Mrs. Lola McDougal at her home, and presented her with a small token of regard. Mrs. McDougal left the employ of the company on the 15th of the month.

A. N. Bentley, service man, began to lose weight this summer, and about the first of August was advised by his physician that he was undernourished and needed a rest. He took the rest at the Russian River and reports a gain of 9 pounds and a good time. He certainly looks improved.

O. M. Patten took his vacation this month. Spent part of the time in Monterey and other coast points, and part of the time at home.

Manager Thomas Hancock's family, after having been in quarantine for diphtheria for eight weeks, were released on August 31.

Cleo Schubert is the proud father of an eight-pound boy, born on August 30.

Further information concerning the whereabouts of our gadabouts will be furnished upon request.

CORCORAN

H. G. JOBE, *Chief Clerk.*

Loris Auld, traveling accountant, spent a few days here enjoying the Corcoran climate and water. The girls like to have Loris call, they appreciate so much the candy that he doesn't bring.

The epidemic of summer vacations is still raging and seems to break out most seriously in the form of fishing trips.

Fred C. Carroll took his family to Pacific Grove for two weeks as he thought that was the best place on the coast to catch fish. But during the time he was there the place seems to have lost its reputation,—for fishing, of course.

W. R. Dillinger and wife took their Ford to Grass Valley, but since their return have been silent concerning the fish. However, Mrs. C. J. Reid of the Lemoore office, who pursued the Kern Canyon trout, has quite a number of fish stories to tell.

COALINGA DISTRICT

News: Anything of interest to others. So vacations must be news. T. K. Holmes and family are spending two weeks here and there. Mrs. Metta Odell is spending her vacation at her ranch in Santa Clara Valley.

Edna Vickery, consumers' clerk, C. F. Wagner, storekeeper, and J. W. Howe, gang pusher, returned recently from their vacations. Miss Vickery reported an enjoyable rest at Long Beach, Mr. Wagner spent his two weeks visiting San Francisco and Los Angeles, and Mr.

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Column of smoke rising above burning oil tank on Shell property at Coalinga.

Howe and family visited Yosemite and Lake Tahoe via Tioga Pass.

Leonard L. Chew, of baseball fame, has been transferred to Santa Maria. Chew and family left us August 29 to take up his new duties.

Coalinga District witnessed a spectacle long to be remembered last month when the 750,000-barrel reservoir of the Shell Company was struck by lightning and burned for three days. There were about 681,000 barrels of oil in storage at the time but some 15,000 barrels were drained off. Hundreds of automobiles loaded with sightseers flocked to Coalinga to witness the blaze and dense clouds of smoke.

MADERA

GRACE PHILLIPS, *Reporter.*

R. E. Shupe, former assistant to the chief clerk, has recently been transferred to Fresno and is now with the stores department. Miss Frances Clevenger is doing the work formerly done by Mr. Shupe.

Miss Grace Phillips is back on the job again after two and a half months spent in Missouri and Kansas visiting with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Walthall spent the afternoon and evening of September 7 visiting with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Barrett.

A. G. Wishon was in Madera on August 12 looking over the district. Among other things Mr. Barrett showed him some of our cotton fields. While here he also attended the Lions' luncheon with Mr. Barrett.

Many of our hunting enthusiasts have been out in pursuit of elusive doves since the opening of the season. We did not hear any particulars except that Ben Catching's rather sad look of a few days ago was caused from having had to return without the limit.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Houston are touring the northern part of the State. They expect to return by way of the coast, stopping for a few days at Santa Cruz.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Petcavage, who were married in Fresno on September 5, stopped for a few minutes in Madera on their way to Oregon. When they were ready to start again their new Buick refused to go. Upon investigation it was found that the hood was filled with broken insulators, high voltage and danger signs and other emblems of the trade. The guilty parties have not as yet been found although there are several suspects. Upon their return Mr. and Mrs. Petcavage will reside in Madera. We extend our congratulations to them and to welcome Mrs. Petcavage into our San Joaquin family circle.

August Kuhlmeier motored to Gilroy on September 7 with a party of Odd Fellows and Rebakahs to visit the Orphans' Home there.

G. R. Koenig spent the Labor Day holidays at Beasore Meadows; Jerry Thede and Bob DeChaine went to San Francisco to attend the Diamond Jubilee celebration; Edna Lewis went to Santa Cruz and Monterey; the Clevenger family went to Soquel; and Miss Dolly Dike of the Chowchilla office went to Los Angeles. Miss Dike will remain in the southern part of the State for a week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Scott and son, Marvin, spent their vacation in Los Angeles. W. S. Graham and H. G. Trethewey also are away on vacations.

This year considerable acreage in the Chowchilla District has been planted to cotton. Harvest time is now at hand and the new plant of the Chowchilla Cotton Oil Company is now in operation. The first bale went through at 4 o'clock on September 9. It was grown by R. W. Adams three miles southwest of Chowchilla. The first bale of cotton to be baled at the new plant brought a cash prize of $150 and baling charges were free. This cotton was grown on a twenty-seven-acre tract and the expectations of the crop for the twenty-seven acres are for one and one-half bales to the acre. It was taken care of by one man and irrigated by a 5-horsepower electric pump.

The Cotton Oil Company plant at Chowchilla has an installed capacity of 372 horsepower and a capacity of baling 80 bales of cotton a day. They have equipment for the manufacture of cotton seed oil and cotton meal cakes and expect to use all the by-products of the plant.

Ross Crawford stepped into the limelight when he mistook himself for a dove on a recent hunting expedition. The newspaper account is that Ross had some 16-gauge shells mixed with the 12-gauge shells for his gun and while loading his gun he used a 16-shell which slipped down into the barrel. Not noticing that the gun was already loaded, Ross put in a 12 shell. And then it happened. Result was that Ross has been carrying a much-bandaged left hand.

The Bird family of Madera, California, is mourning the loss of A. Little Bird, the father and family provider. The following touching

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epitaph, written by Earl McCrory, is on file in the Madera District office:

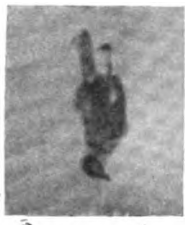
TROUBLE TAG NO. 1313

District, Madera. Date, August 13, 1925. Investigate the following and return to District Manager:

Transformer out. Bird flew into primary lead. Grounded top terminal to case bar.

Time received 8:05 a. m. *by* BEN CATCHING.

REPORT



This little bird in childish glee
Flew from the fields afar.
He perched himself on the 10 KV,
And met with an awful jar.
You see him now as he lies in death,
His body rigid and cold.
Just take a look at the trouble tag,
And our little story is told.
Signed EARL MCCRORY.
Chowchilla.

Time answered 8:10 a. m.

CRANE VALLEY

GEO. J. GLEASON, *Reporter.*

W. N. Gates and mother, Mrs. Barbara Gates, spent their two-weeks' vacation visiting friends in San Francisco and Oakland.

Miss Belle Casner of Oakland is visiting her sister, Mrs. Friendly Petteys.

Clyde Hart spent his days off with his folks in Farmersville. Mrs. Ada Higdon and daughter, Aldyne, came back with him and are visiting Miss Jane Visher.

On Friday evening, August 21, a farewell party was given Mr. and Mrs. Martin at the boarding house, when five hundred was played, Mrs. Martin winning the ladies' prize for high score and Edw. Kiely, the man's prize. After the games, ice cream and cake were served.

Another weiner roast was staged on "Neptune Beach" on August 27 by the fellows at Power House No. 1. After swimming and eating all they could, the crowd adjourned to the Clubhouse where the rest of the evening was spent in dancing

Those from Power House No. 1 who attended the farewell party given Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Goldsworthy at Kerckhoff on August 29 report a good time. Mr. Goldsworthy left the company September 1 and plans going into business for himself at Auberry.

Ten cans of Brown German trout were planted in Kerckhoff Lake September 4 by Billy Beam. It is believed that this variety of trout will thrive in the lake although the altitude of 1,000 feet is somewhat low. Several varieties of trout have been tried in Kerckhoff Lake without much success. A few steelheads and rainbow trout have been caught here, but not enough to make the sport interesting. The recent planting of 25,000 brown trout is an experiment which if successful will lead to further stocking of the lake. The fish were placed in the lake at the suggestion of Sherwood Green, attorney and sportsman of Madera, who is active in the Madera Rodmen's Club.

KINGS RIVER

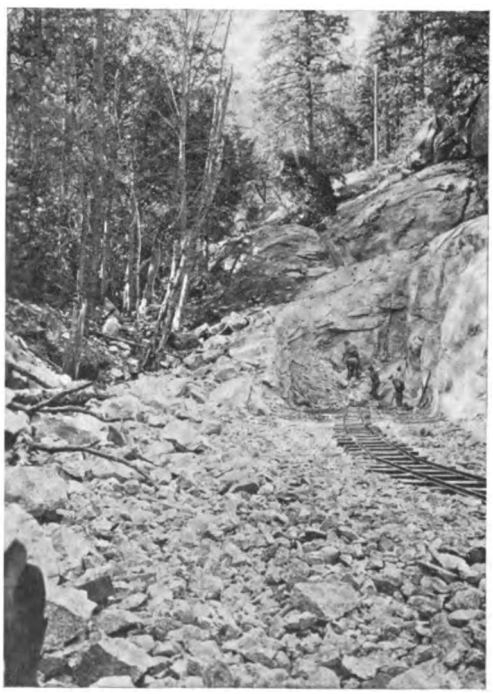
TUNNEL OPERATIONS START AT BALCH CAMP

Contracts for the labor on the Balch Tunnel of the Kings River Project have been awarded to John De Lucca, A. C. Dennis, and Floyd T. Huntington, and work started September 1 on Weir Adit. Black Rock adit was started September 10, and work will begin on the West Portal section September 15.

The main 12 by 12-foot tunnel will be 19,347 feet in length and the adits will require an additional 658 feet of 8x12 bore. Excavation will be carried on at five breasts or headings, the longest section to be handled from one adit being the Weir Creek section of 8,666 feet and the shortest is the West Portal section, 4,343 feet.

Machinery will be furnished by the power company and includes five Conweigh electric shovels for handling muck in the tunnels, six Mancha electric locomotives operated by storage batteries, thirty 3-yard dump cars, blowers, air compressors, drills, rails and ventilating pipe have been ordered and delivery received on most of this equipment ready to begin operations.

Three camps have been constructed where 450 men will be housed during the tunnel operations. Black Rock camp at the upper end of the tunnel will have 90 men, Weir Camp in the middle section 180 men, and Patterson



Where the Black Rock adit is being driven into the main tunnel line.

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Camp near the discharge end of the tunnel will have 180 men. Another camp is under construction at the Forebay where 60 or 70 men will be at work.

Work on the tunnel will be pressed forward continuously night and day until completed, which is expected to be late next year. The cost of the completed tunnel is estimated at $1,263,000.

Work on the penstock anchor bases is progressing rapidly and will be completed in ample time for the big tube when it arrives. An incline railway has been installed on the penstock grade to handle the pipe and for construction of the anchor pillars.

The sawmill is working smoothly, turning out 20,000 feet per day of various sizes of lumber necessary for construction work. Good supplies of lumber are being piled in the yard ready for use as required.

An electric furnace for heating drill bits to be sharpened has been installed and is doing this work very satisfactorily. Bits have heretofore been heated by an oil blast. The electric heater will save considerable hauling of oil drums and increase the output of the sharpeners.

SAN LUIS OBISPO & PASO ROBLES

LEOLA M. RIGHETTI, *Reporter.*

Our gang has been howling for publicity and wondering why we were not represented in the magazine each month, but no one ever thought to help the poor reporter find news. With every one married off, and no prospects of pending weddings, there wasn't much to write about. However, things are looking better, as some of our younger service men are inquiring about the cost of living, and if two can live on one pay check, and getting the usual assurances that it has been done before and can be done again.

Vacations? Yes, we have them over here, too. Those of our district who are just back are W. R. Coats, D. C. Miller, L. M. Righetti, E. L. Bray, E. L. Perry, S. F. Platt, and R. N. McKie. Anna M. Janssen spent part of her vacation in San Francisco during Jubilee Week, and H. Sellers is now touring the northern part of the State.

Lew E. Wilcox, our former storekeeper, was transferred to the sales department of the Valley Electrical Company in June and his place was taken by L. L. Turnbull. Lew's new job takes him out of town occasionally and on August 21, he rushed home to find upon his arrival, a 7½-pound daughter, Donnabelle Lee. He emphatically maintains that she sat up then and there and said "There's my daddy, now."

To the list of arrivals must be added one Charles John Kelly, Jr., who arrived June 5 at the home of our District Manager.

Anna Janssen is the lucky winner of the apron sent over to our district by Mrs. Letchworth. She has put it in her hope chest, although she denies any serious intentions.

N. G. Hanes, operator for the Midland Counties Public Service Corporation at Atascadero Substation, has tendered his resignation effective the first of August. For thirteen years he has been with the company, being located at Merced until 1921, when he was transferred to Atascadero as general service man. Mr. Hanes is leaving to go to the Easy Strap Lingerie Fastener Company in the capacity of manager. This company, with its headquarters in Atascadero, has recently put on the market a novelty lingerie strap fastener that promises to develop considerable demand.

FRESNO CITY WATER CORPN.

MARIE WOLFE, *Reporter.*

C. B. Jackson spent Labor Day in Yuba City, returning with his family Monday night. Mr. Jakson's girls spent the summer with relatives in the northern city.

Miss Ruth Greer and F. M. Ashley returned August 17 from their vacations. Ruth returned with a detailed description of the Jubilee preparations, and Ashley with a Santa Cruz waterwave.

C. H. Weekes was back at his desk Tuesday morning, September 8, after spending two weeks at Cayucas Beach. C. H. spent considerable time counting the waves in an effort to determine why the ocean is so close to the shore. The trip over was made via Parkfield Grade, and the return by way of Cholame lateral.

Chris Koeberer, M. K. Brown, Wm. L. Leavitt, and Lawrence "Lowie" Camy started for two weeks' sightseeing tours September 7, Koeberer joining the Diamond Jubilee crowd, Leavitt and Camy the bathing beauties in Long Beach, while M. K. has promised us each a quarter of fresh venison on his return.

W. F. (Bill) Leavitt, the crack shot of the company, took a few of the younger generation out dove hunting a few days ago. The only reason Bill did not get all the doves in Madera County was because they were flying the wrong direction.

DINUBA

BLANCHE WEDDLE, *Reporter.*

President A. G. Wishon gave an interesting talk August 18 to the Dinuba Rotary Club on the subject of "Diversification." After luncheon Mr. Wishon and District Manager Redfern drove over the district looking over the various crop conditions.

During the month of August those on vacations were Miss Velma Powers, cash clerk, who spent two weeks at San Bernardino and Santa Ana visiting with friends and relatives; Eva Haynes, clerk, who accompanied by Mr. Haynes, spent two weeks in Everest, Kansas, visiting her parents. Walter Leedy, district foreman, spent his vacation building a new home on his ranch which he recently purchased. Walter reports that he could not call it much of a vacation. District Manager Hazen G.

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Redfern spent a week in Los Angeles and various towns in that vicinity.

Glen Medler, our collector, says we can't call him a bachelor any longer as his wife returned home August 24, after a two months' visit in Illinois. George Southworth, one of our linemen, reports that his wife returned home August 27, after spending three months in Michigan. Walter Leedy, our district foreman, didn't quite starve while his wife was away, but he says he has a better appetite since she has returned. Mrs. Leedy and two youngsters, Wayne and Wallace, spent a month's vacation at Pinehurst.

SELMA DISTRICT

HOWARD H. YOUNG, *District Manager.*

August, in keeping with each month this year, exceeded our expectations in regard to new business signed and connected. August is always the slowest month of the year in regard to actual business signed and while the month was no exception this year, still it was over 100 per cent better than 1923 or 1924. Eleven agricultural power consumers with a total load of 150 horsepower were definitely signed to accept service during the month together with seven new cooking and heating consumers with a total of 57.9 kilowatts.

Among some of the larger consumers listed are W. H. Haslam of Riverdale who was served with a 7½-horsepower motor for irrigation purposes together with 6.8 kilowatts for a range and 3 kilowatts for a water heater at his residence near Riverdale. Mrs. N. ten Brock and H. L. Wagoner, who live approximately four miles west of Laton on the Laton-Riverdale road, accepted service for a 7½-horsepower motor each for irrigation, while Mrs. ten Brock was served with an electric range and water heater in a total amount of 12 kilowatts and Mr. Wagoner took service for a 6.8-kilowatt range and a 3-kilowatt water heater. Mrs. Ella Horn, who owns a large ranch southwest of Selma, was served with a 15-horsepower motor for irrigation together 6.8-kilowatt range. Ray Williamson of Riverdale signed for a 7-kilowatt electric range at his residence at Riverdale, while Mrs. Maggie Wilson, who owns a ranch south of Selma and whose residence is at Santa Cruz, signed for a 15-horsepower motor for irrigation purposes. Another convert from gas engine pumping to electrical irrigation was Arthur R. Anderson, who owns 20 acres of peach trees and vines southeast of Kingsburg and who accepted service for a 7½-horsepower motor. Mr. Anderson has been an electric range and light consumer for several years and the new equipment electrifies his ranch completely. Among other new agricultural power consumers are listed O. C. Crow, 15 horsepower; Frank Anderson, 10 horsepower; G. E. Shaw, 5 horsepower and I. V. Lasater, 7½ horsepower.

Chaddock & Co of Fowler added 20 horsepower to their installation at their raisin plant at Fowler making a total of 40 horsepower in electric motors. Four new lighting consumers were added to the lines during the month.

General financial conditions continue to improve. Returns from various sorts of ranch products are being received daily by the ranchers. The long expected payment of ¼ cent and ½ cent on raisins was made during the end of the month and received generally the first of September. The amounts received are small of course but help greatly, coming at a time when funds are needed for raisin picking and general harvesting of crops.

Green fruit is moving rather slowly but more surely than any time since 1920. It is reported that shipments of fruit are not as large this year but more real money is being returned to the ranchers for their products at this time than last year. The explanation for this is that the fly-by-night concerns that spring up like mushrooms annually, are not so prevalent this year. There are fewer concerns handling grapes and green fruit but their security and reliability are much stronger.

Libby Cannery experienced the heaviest day's output during the month that they have ever had in the history of the local plant. Nine thousand and twenty-seven cases of peaches were packed out in one day, requiring approximately 200 tons of peaches to make this enormous output possible. The Libby Cannery, with its weekly payroll of $17,500 distributed among 750 employees, is a great boon to Selma, not only because of the big payroll but because it furnishes a permanent market for the peaches produced in this particular territory.

Reports from Riverdale and Caruthers are extremely sanguine. The First National Bank of Caruthers reports an increase of $26,000 in its deposits over the corresponding month last year, while a large number of new accounts reported would indicate that many new settlers are making their permanent home in this particular community. The First National Bank of Riverdale makes a similar optimistic report as their deposits have increased $50,000 over the same period last year, indicating a prosperous condition in this particular dairy territory. Butterfat prices are maintaining a level of approximately 49c.

The Citizens Lumber Company is in the process of rebuilding its plant which was burned last month, indicating a confidence in building activity in Selma and vicinity. The decision to rebuild was made a few days after the fire, which entirely wiped out the yard and office.

Three line construction crews are still operating in the Selma district, kept busy on new business construction.

CORCORAN DISTRICT

H. G. JOBE, *Chief Clerk.*

During the month of August power installations were connected to the company's lines in the Corcoran district to the extent of 233.3 horsepower. Of this 44.7 horsepower consisted of increases in installations for old consumers and 188.50 horsepower was connected for new consumers. Among the larger loads are J. H. Wagamon, 15 horsepower; M. Curti with an increase of 10 horsepower; Tulare Lake Land

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Co.; 60 horsepower; Boswell Gin Co., increase of 15 horsepower; Ray Stevens, 10 horsepower; Fred Newton, 60 horsepower; and Friends Service Station, 5 horsepower.

Cooking and heating installations were made for 16 consumers amounting to 95.25 kilowatts, while ten lighting installations were connected.

During the month of August, 26 applications for power consisting of 1,007.75 horsepower, and 13 applications for cooking and heating were filed but have not as yet been connected. The J. G. Boswell Oil Mill for 285 horsepower and the Corcoran Cotton Oil Mill for 200 horsepower were among the applications. Construction on these plants will be completed in September in time for this season's cotton crop.

Southwest of Stratford, in the West Tulare Lake district, there are a number of wells being sunk which will bring under intensive cultivation thousands of acres of land. In the past this land has been dependent on flood waters for irrigation and the results were not profitable. The new wells will assure crops on a vast acreage.

DINUBA DISTRICT

HAZEN G. REDFERN, *District Manager.*

The green fruit harvest came on with a rush in August, all packing houses operating and many cars of fruit leaving daily for eastern points.

The Kings County and The Herbert Packing Companies are operating at full capacity on peaches and the Beckwith Company is running 16 hours per day on Kadota figs. These three houses are located in Reedley.

General conditions in the district are showing some improvement which is expected to continue throughout the balance of the year.

During the month 15 meters were set, connecting 107 horsepower in agricultural load, 25 lighting consumers and 10½ kilowatts in cooking and heating load. We have signed, to be connected soon, 1113½ horsepower for agricultural power, 14 lighting consumers, and 18½ kilowatts for heating and cooking.

Among the consumers signed are J. F. Marlar, C. W. Johnson, J. F. Nall, and Elderwood Water Company for 10 horsepower each, B. A. Bezzerides and G. MacGregor for 15 horsepower each, and a number of smaller motors ranging from one to 7½ horsepower.

Since January 1, 1925, electric motors have replaced 131 gas engines in this district. The average size of these motors is 8.2 horsepower.

MADERA DISTRICT

J. E. BARRETT, *District Manager.*

The economic condition in the Madera District is improving. Building shows an impetus, as is evidenced by the renovation for modern offices of the Kutner Estate building, which was recently purchased by two local men. The old Co-operative Dairy, which has stood idle for two years, has been purchased by Nello Barsotti who plans to handle much milk that now is going to other creameries. The California Cotton Oil Mill in Chowchilla with two additional cotton gins will be ready for operation soon. The Sierra Vista ranch holdings of 4,200 acres have been taken over by San Jose capital and will be subdivided for colonization purposes. Recent payments of the Sun-Maid Raisin Growers have furnished the growers with some cash which helped improve the general feeling.

Evidence of increased industrial activity is shown in the new business connected up during August by the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation. Twenty-nine new consumers now are realizing the benefits of electrical service. Eleven homes have electric lights for the first time; in six more homes the housewife is cooking with electricity; an ice machine has been installed in Chowchilla; and on seven farms the agricultural power load for irrigation has been increased, while on four other farms installations have been made to supply power for the first time, making a total increase in agricultural load of 85.50 horsepower. New business for the eight months since January 1 shows a total of 127 light consumers, 38 heating and cooking consumers, 11 industrial power consumers using 454 horsepower, and 225 customers with agricultural installations totalling 2,832.75 horsepower.

Snook O'Brien's model farm will be on exhibition at the Madera County Fair to be held at Chowchilla September 22-26 with a display of electric ranges from the Valley Electrical Supply Company.

SAN JOAQUIN DISTRICT

E. G. STAHL, *District Manager.*

Indications are that this will be the best year in the history of the San Joaquin District from the standpoint of new business. We have had applications for practically 1,000 horsepower during the past six weeks, which includes among the larger applicants 160 horsepower for Lyon and Hoag at Ora Loma; W. J. Hotchkiss, Firebaugh, 150 horsepower; Wylie M. Giffen, Mendota, 375 horsepower; Giffen and McGuire, Mendota, 95 horsepower; Harris Cotton Co., Helm, 100 horsepower; and Chris Mumson, Wheatville, 60 horsepower.

Three wells are under development to bring under cultivation for grain and cotton several thousand acres 10 miles northwest of Mendota, owned by Lyon and Hoag of San Francisco, according to Charles G. Murray, field manager. Contracts have been signed for 5 miles of 11,000-volt line to serve this new development, three motors totaling 160 horsepower to be installed at once. Additional pumping plants will be installed to serve this development as required. Sixteen sections are owned by Lyon and Hoag in this vicinity all of which will be brought under cultivation during the next four or five years.

Additional transformer capacity is being installed in the Ora Loma substation which will serve this section and to bring additional service to the Hotchkiss property where twelve pumping plants and 107½ horsepower for a

(Continued on page 32)

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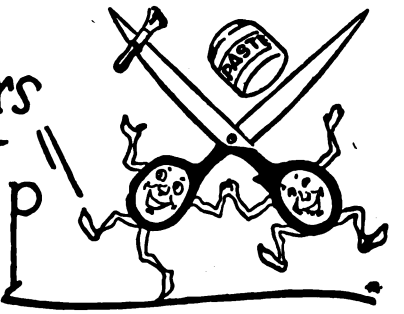
The Jolly Little Shears "How They Do Cut Up"



READY FOR EMERGENCIES

Cora—"Were there any marrying men at the beach where you were?"

Dora—"Yes, two ministers and a justice of the peace."—*Boston Transcript.*

SHRINKING VIOLETS

Marshall—"The Jonses are moving from the neighborhood."

Muriel—"Moving! Why, people are just getting to know them."

Marshall—"That's why they're going."—*Progressive Grocer.*

CARELESS!

Restaurant Manager (to orchestra conductor)—"I wish you'd display a little more tact in choosing the music. We've got the National Association of Umbrella Manufacturers here this evening, and you've just played 'It Ain't Gonna Rain No More!"—*Good Hardware.*

HIS GENEROUS REQUEST

"I hear that Jones left everything he had to an orphan asylum."

"Is that so? What did he leave?"

"Twelve children."—*Patton's Monthly.*

WELL TUBBED

"The —— Guardians are trying to trace the relatives of a four-months-old baby found on a doorstep. It was drest in clothing of very poor quality, and had been much laundered."—*Daily Paper.*

"It looks like a case of "throwing the baby out with the bath-water."—*Punch.*

"EXCUSE ME"

With graceful feet a maiden sweet,
Was tripping the light fantastic,
When suddenly she tore for the dressing room door—
You never can trust elastic.

THE MELANCHOLY TRUTH

"You look tired!"

"Yes, I've had a bad day. That office-boy of mine came in with the old story of getting away for his grandmother's funeral, so just to teach him a lesson I said I would accompany him."

"He took you to the baseball game, I suppose?"

"No such luck! He told the truth for once. It was his grandmother's funeral!"—*Good Hardware.*

BROTHER GOT THE LINGO

A boy left the farm and got a job in the city. He wrote a letter to his brother who elected to stick to the farm, telling of the joys of city life in which he said: "Thursday we autoed out to the County Club, where we golfed until dark. Then we motored to the beach for the week-end."

The brother on the farm wrote back: "Yesterday we buggied to town and baseballed all the afternoon. To-day we muled out to the cornfield and ge-hawed until sundown. After we had suppered, we piped for a while. After that we staircased up to our room and bedsteaded until the clock fived."—*Pittsburgh Christian Advocate.*

RECOMMENDED

S. S. Teacher: "Where do little boys go who fish on Sunday?"

Johnny: "Mendota's the best place."

BE CAREFUL BOYS!

"More than one young MAN has run into a CHURCH by tryin' to drive a flivver with ONE hand."

Child: "Sheeps is the dumbest of all animals, ain't they, mama?"

Mother (absently): "Yes, my lamb."

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SAN JOAQUIN DISTRICT

(Continued from page 30)

cotton gin are being served by San Joaquin Power.

The colonization of 12,000 acres of land adjoining Kerman, by incorporated Mennonites from Kansas and Canada, has begun. The project will bring about 500 families within the next four years to settle on 40 and 50 acre tracts which will be developed by the Farms Company and turned over to the settlers for dairying and truck gardening.

Cotton picking will begin, in this district, during the latter part of this month and it is estimated that the total district yield will be 12,000 bales.

Two new school buildings are under construction at the present time.

SAN JOAQUIN

VELMA PRICE, *Reporter.*

The congratulations of the entire crew were extended to District Manager E. G. Stahl August 5 when a nine-pound boy arrived at his house. This is the second son in the Stahl family, the first son, Robert, being 3½ years old, who, with Rosemary, 2, completes a full house—three jacks and a pair of queens.

Recent vacationers were A. A. Anderson, who took his family to Bass Lake; J. B. Turner, who visited Santa Maria and cost points; and Velma Price, who went to Long Beach and other Southern California beaches.

C. H. Abbott, operator at the San Joaquin sub was the proud winner of a $25.00 prize awarded by the James Ranch Home Improvement Club for the best looking yard in the city of San Joaquin. The yard of the San Joaquin sub is a profusion of flowers and shrubs tastefully placed around a fine lawn that always gets more than a passing glance from all who pass that way.

FOUND—Grey vest in company garage. Owner call garage office.

SAN JOAQUIN POWER MAGAZINE

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PEARL HINE WRITES SAN JOAQUIN POWER FRIENDS

The following letter from our former playmate, Pearl Hine, appeared on the editorial desk recently and we are printing it "as is." Pearl deserted San Joaquin Power on August 15 for the learned land of Palo Alto,—our loss and Palo Alto's gain. Her invitation embraces a lot of territory. We will avail ourselves of it, thank you, Pearl, and may appear 500 strong one of these days.

August 31, 1925.

Dear Friends of the S. J. L. & P.:

First of all I want to thank you all for the wonderful gifts. I tried to see every one before I left but was unable to. I certainly did appreciate them, and it seems they were just made for my new house here. They shall always carry fond memories of dear old San Joaquin Power. You are a wonderful bunch and I certainly hated to leave you, but now you all have some place to spend your vacations.

Palo Alto is a grand town and the surrounding country is beautiful,—a regular spot for a summer vacation. I want each one of you to visit me,—I will treat you just as nice as I know how. We have everything imaginable on the ranch so I will be able to feed you well.

When I am in Fresno I will drop in and see all of you, but in the meantime don't forget that you have a standing invitation to Palo Alto, just any time you can come.

Sincerely,

PEARL HINE,
176 Tennyson Ave.,
Palo Alto, California.

P. S.: Hello to the Districts.

A message to those who are helping to make this business a success.

OUR best source of good will comes through contact with our customers.

In defining good will, the U. S. Supreme Court says: "Good will is the disposition of the customer to return to the place where he has been well treated."

A. EMORY WISHON
Vice-President and General Manager

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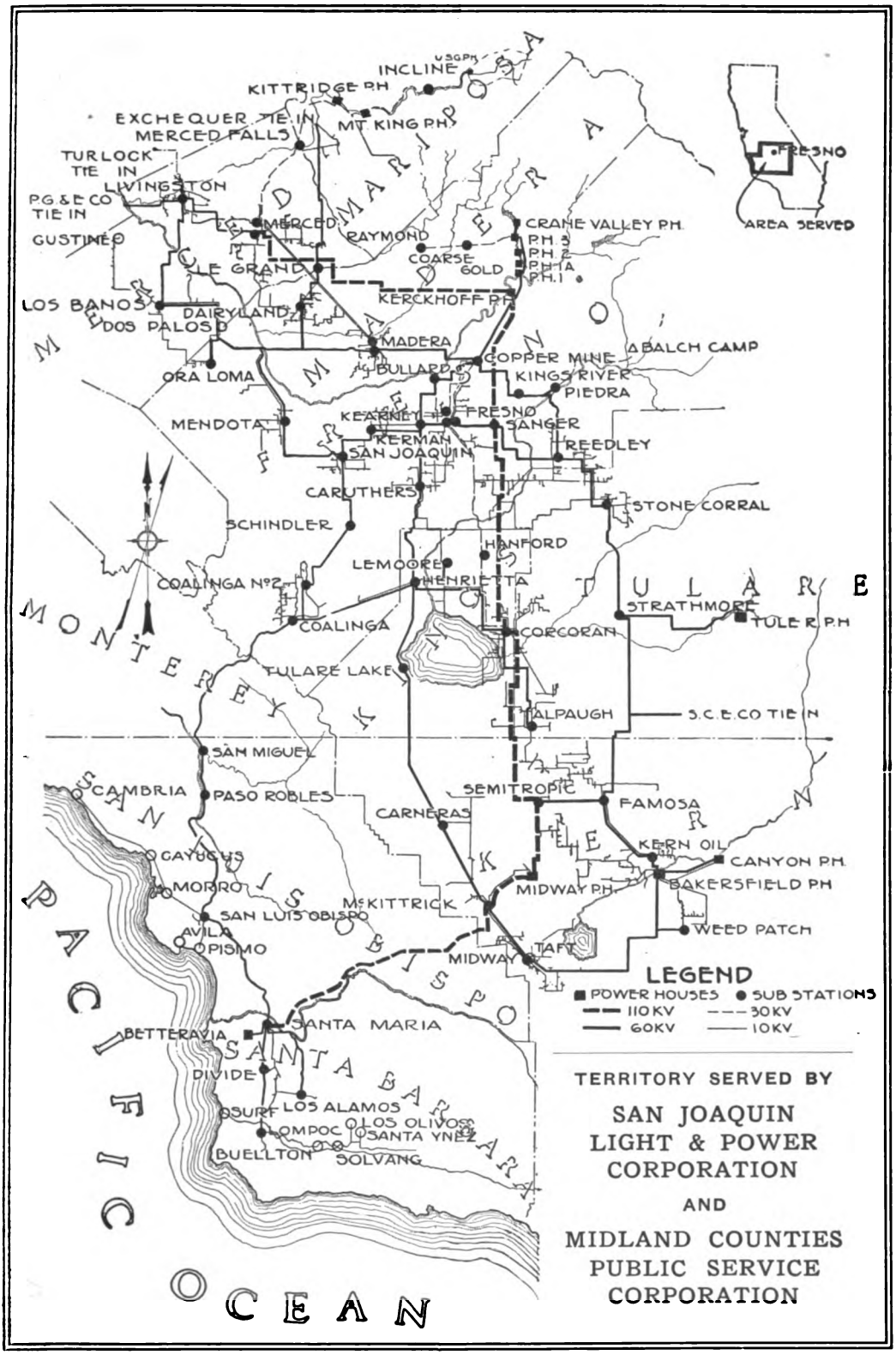

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Another Pay Day

For 12,500 San Joaquin Power Stockholders

On September 15, checks amounting to $1.75 per share were in the hands of all stockholders of San Joaquin Power Seven Per Cent Prior Preferred Stock. This is the regular quarterly dividend earned by the investments of thouands of customer owners of San Joaquin Power.

Your investment in San Joaquin Power Prior Preferred Stock is safe,—the dividends are paid regularly every 90 days.

San Joaquin Power Prior Preferred Stock is listed on San Francisco and Los Angeles exchanges, providing a steady market,—it is always salable.

San Joaquin Power Prior Preferred Stock represents preferred ownership in the San Joaquin Light & Power Corporation,—it ranks next to the bonds of the company in participation of earnings.

Ask any employee—
He owns some

SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT & POWER CORPORATION

A. G. WISHON, *President*

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